

JULY 1949  
VOL. 9 NO. 4

# Shadow

## COMICS

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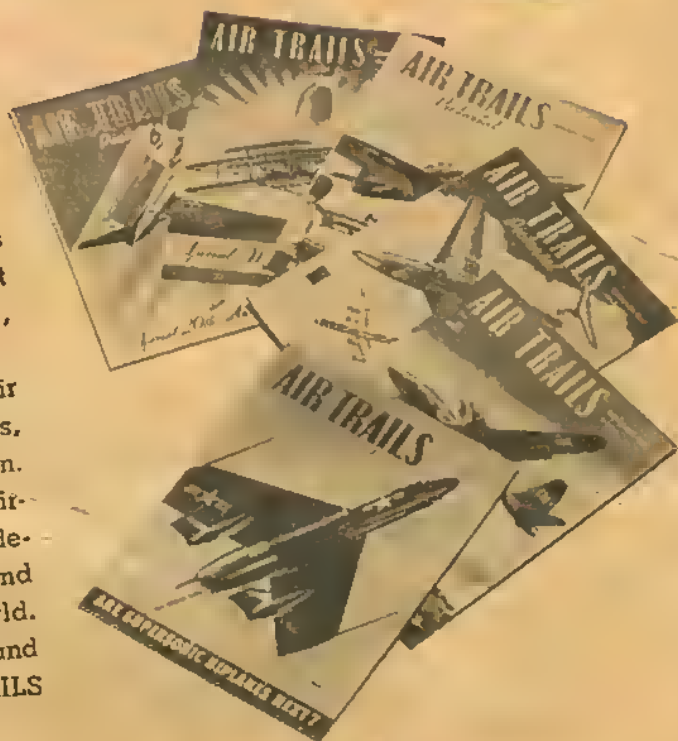
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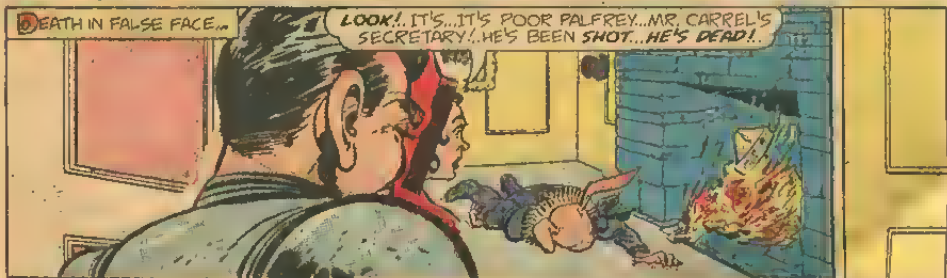
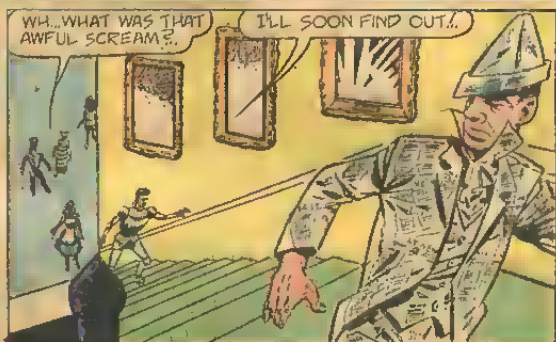
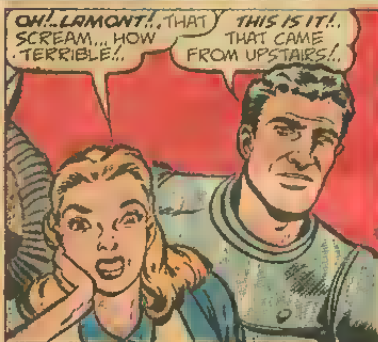
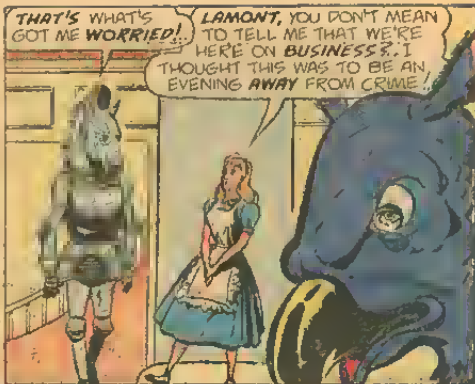
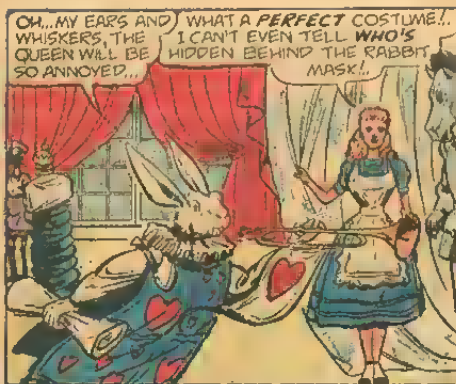
**MURDER THROUGH  
THE LOOKING GLASS!**



CAN COSTUMES DISGUISE MALICE  
IN MURDERLAND? WHAT REASON  
STALKS BEHIND THIS MOTIVE-  
LESS CRIME? MURDER HIDES  
A FACE, AS THE SHADOW  
PERSUES A MASKED KILLER.

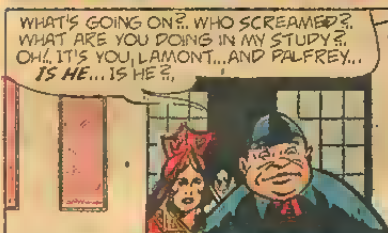
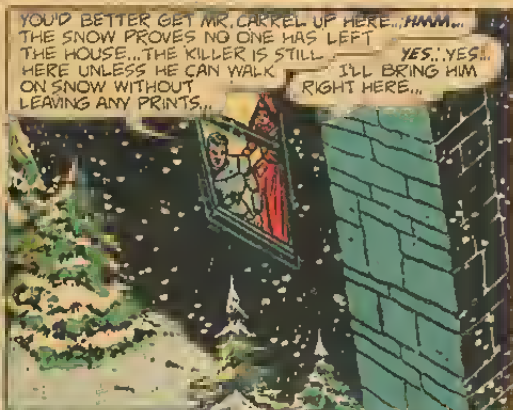
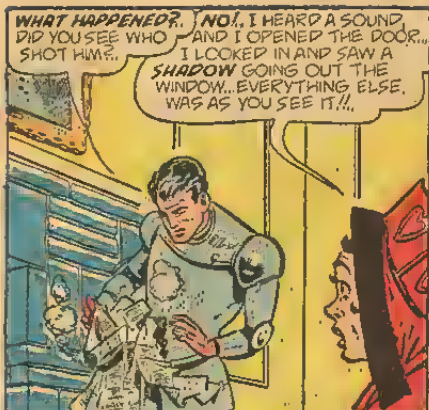
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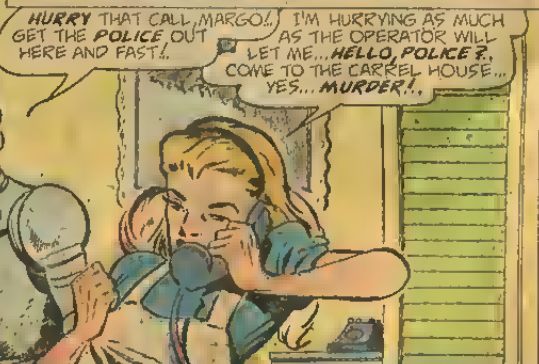
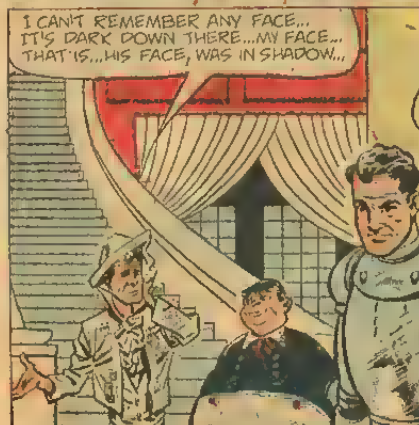
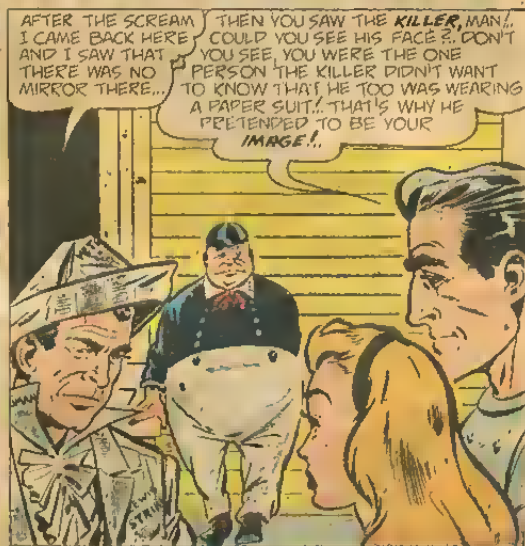
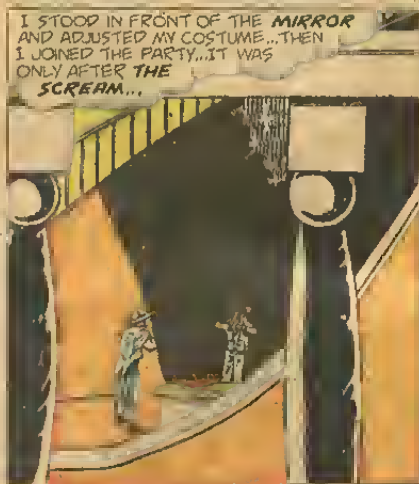
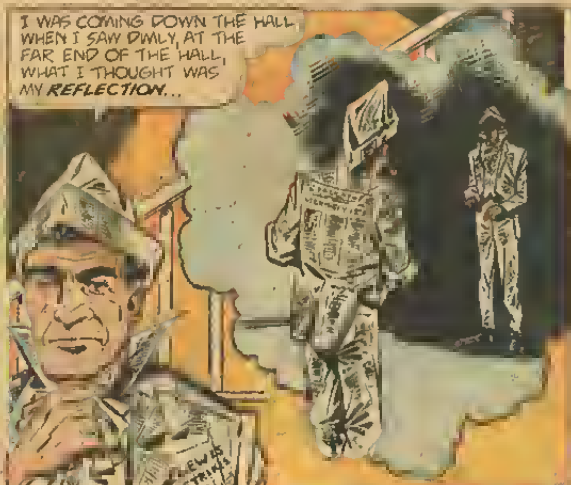
**TUNE IN** EACH WEEK TO THE OF THE **SHADOW**





**THRILLING ADVENTURES**

CONSULT YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPERS FOR TIME AND STATION







NOT CARREL!. OH!. YOU'RE DRESSED AS **TWEEDLEDEE** AND HE'S DRESSED AS **TWEEDLEPUM**....

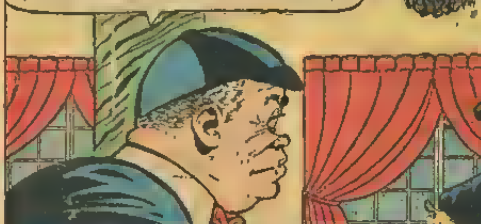
IT SEEMED LIKE A CUTE IDEA AT THE TIME... WE'RE **PARTNERS** IN BUSINESS... SO I THOUGHT... OH DEER!. HOW CAN I EXPLAIN?..



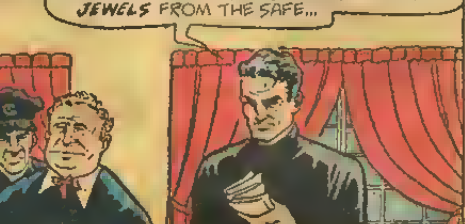
I KNOW IT SOUNDS **INSANE**, BUT THIS WHOLE THING IS MAD!. I FELT IN MY POCKETS FOR A MATCH AND I FELT THOSE PAPERS... I KNEW THEY WERE FROM THE SAFE... I JUST WANTED TO GET RID OF THEM..



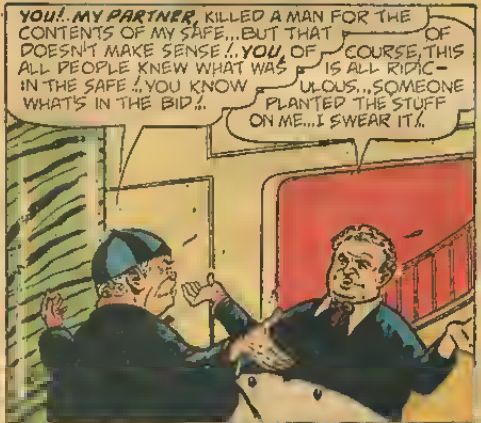
**WARLEY!**.. WHAT ARE YOU DOING?.. WHY IS THE POLICEMAN HOLDING YOU?..



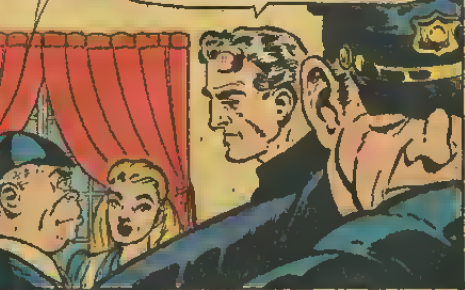
HE WAS THROWING THESE THINGS OUT INTO THE SNOW!. **YOUR PAPERS** AND THE **JEWELS** FROM THE SAFE...



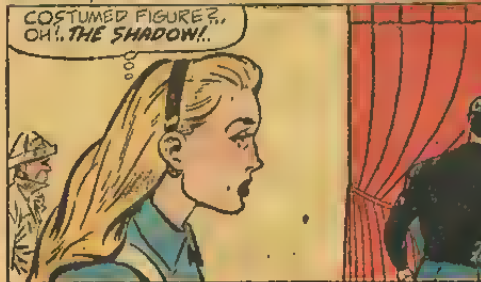
**YOU!**.. MY **PARTNER**, KILLED A MAN FOR THE CONTENTS OF MY SAFE... BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE... **YOU**, OF COURSE, THIS IS ALL RIDICULOUS... SOMEONE PLANTED THE STUFF ON ME... I SWEAR IT..



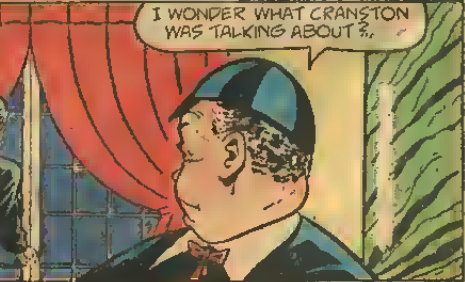
CRANSTON, I DON'T KNOW IF **YOU** UNDERSTAND HOW MOTIVELESS ALL THIS IS... **MURDER** IS NEVER WITHOUT MOTIVE... UNLESS DONE BY A MADMAN!. WE JUST HAVEN'T FOUND THE REAL MOTIVE YET... **DON'T DEEPAIR!**.. TO DATE THERE IS ONE COSTUMED FIGURE THAT HAS NOT APPEARED...



COSTUMED FIGURE?.. OH!. **THE SHADOW!**..



I WONDER WHAT **CRANSTON** WAS TALKING ABOUT?..





ONCE AWAY FROM THE CROWD, WITH NO EYES TO SEE...LAMONT CRANSTON VANISHES...IN HIS STEAD THERE APPEARS **THE SHADOW**!!

THE ONLY FOOT PRINTS ARE THOSE MADE BY THE POLICE ENTERING THE HOUSE...I WONDER!!



THREE MORE MINUTES, PICHON!!

YARE, I'M READY...THIS WAITIN' GIT'S ON ME NOIVES...



WE BETTER GET INTO THESE STUPID THINGS LIKE THE BOSS SAID...

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT ME, I'M GONNA FEEL LIKE A JOIK IN THEM FANCY CLOTHES! THE THINGS WE DO FOR MONEY!! LET'S GO!!



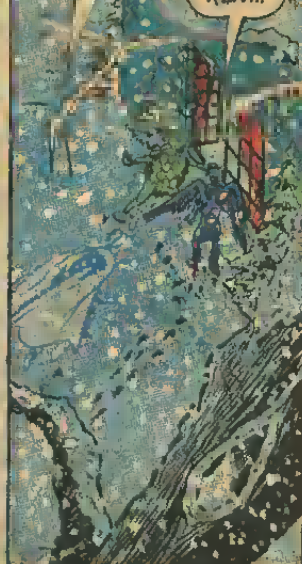
THE FLATTIES ARE ALL UPSTAIRS...JUST LIKE THE BOSS HAD IT DOPED OUT...NOW'S THE TIME!!

ONE... TWO... THREE!!

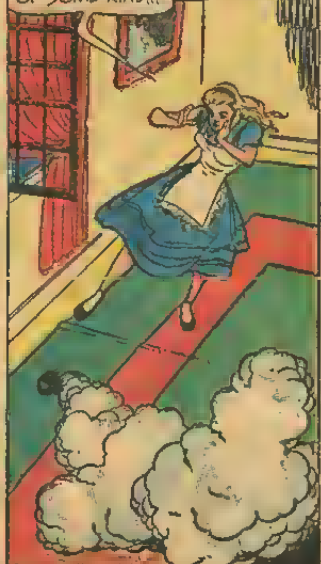


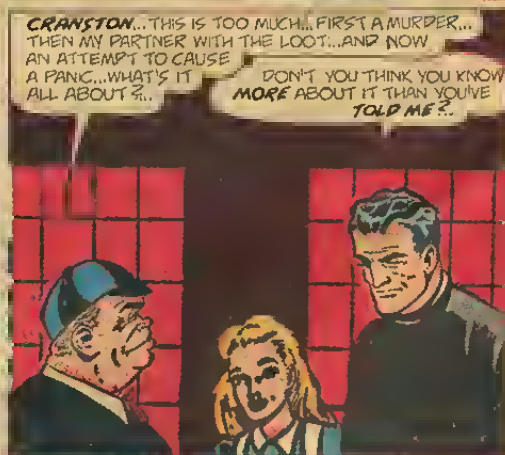
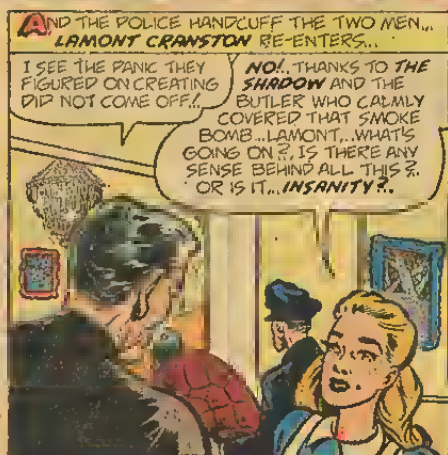
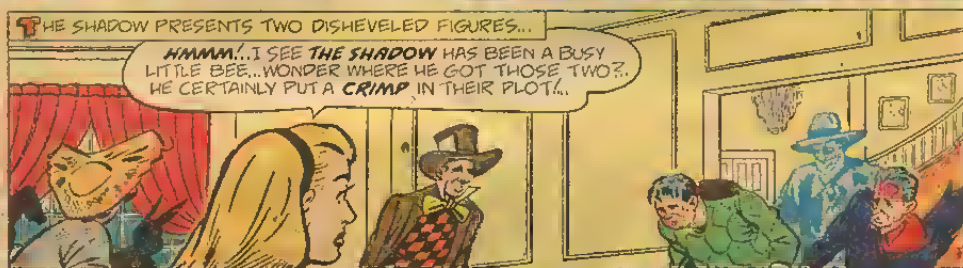
MORE INSANITY!!

FIRE!! HELP!! RUN!!



IS THAT A GRENADE? NO... IT'S A SMOKE BOMB OF SOME KIND...









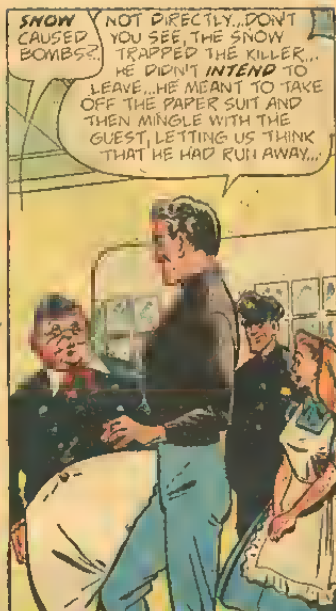
WH...WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WHAT ABOUT THE BID YOU MENTIONED YOU HAD IN YOUR SAFER?



WHY...THAT'S JUST **BUSINESS**... MY COMPANY PUT IN A BID FOR A GOVERNMENT CONTRACT...THE BIDDER WITH THE **LOWEST** BID GETS THE CONTRACT... WHAT'S **THAT** GOT TO DO WITH THE SMOKE BOMBS?

NOTHING... MUCH... THE SNOW CAUSED THE BOMBS!



**SNOW** CAUSED BOMBS?

NOT DIRECTLY...DON'T YOU SEE, THE SNOW TRAPPED THE KILLER... HE DIDN'T **INTEND** TO LEAVE...HE MEANT TO TAKE OFF THE PAPER SUIT AND THEN MINGLE WITH THE GUEST, LETTING US THINK THAT HE HAD RUN AWAY...



BUT WHEN THE SNOW STARTED THIS AFTERNOON IT CHANGED HIS PLAN...HE KNEW THE SNOW WOULD SHOW HE HADN'T LEFT... I GET IT... SO HE HAD THOSE HOOD-LUMS THROW THE SMOKE BOMBS... UNDER COVER OF THAT TURMOIL HE WOULD HAVE LEFT...OR WE WOULD HAVE **THOUGHT** HE HAD LEFT!

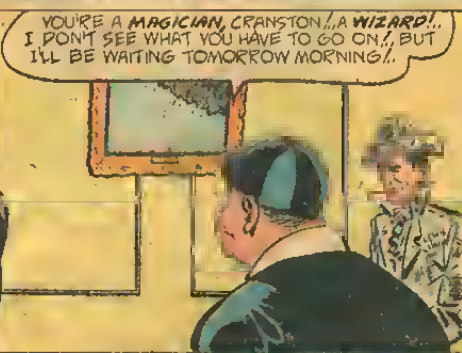


ALL FINISHED? I SEE, VERY WELL...THE GUESTS CAN LEAVE...THIS CASE WILL NOW LOSE ITS COSTUMES! MR. CARREL, WE'LL SEE YOU AT YOUR OFFICE IN THE MORNING!

MEAN...YOU **KNOW** WHO THE KILLER IS, WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT?



**YES!** THE POLICE HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED WHO I WANT TO APPEAR AT YOUR OFFICE... I'LL EXPLAIN ALL TOMORROW...



YOU'RE A **MAGICIAN**, CRANSTON! A **WIZARD**! I DON'T SEE WHAT YOU HAVE TO GO ON, BUT I'LL BE WAITING TOMORROW MORNING!

OH, OH, THAT SMILE BOPEES SOMEONE NO GOOD! WHAT COOKS?  
 UMM... I JUST THINK THAT OUR KILLER IS PLANNING MY DEATH RIGHT ABOUT NOW! THAT'S THE REASON I TOLD GARREL I KNEW WHO THE KILLER WAS!



DO YOU OR ARE YOU BLUFFING?

OH, I KNOW ALL RIGHT, BUT I DON'T SEE HOW I COULD EVER PROVE IT. I HOPE HE CALLS ON ME LATER!



LATER THAT NIGHT... IN CRANSTON'S APARTMENT...  
 THERE HE IS... ONE THRUST AND I'M SAFE... FOREVER!



HOW DO YOU DO... DO YOU ALWAYS COME IN THE WINDOW WHEN YOU GO VISITING, MR. CURRY? YOU KNEW! YOU WEREN'T BLUFFING!



YOU'RE A DETERMINED FELLOW, AREN'T YOU?

I HAVEN'T GONE THROUGH ALL THIS TO BE STOPPED NOW!



TCH... TCH... AND YOUR AIM WAS SO GOOD WHEN YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE PLANTING THE KNIFE IN MY BACK...

BLAST YOU!!

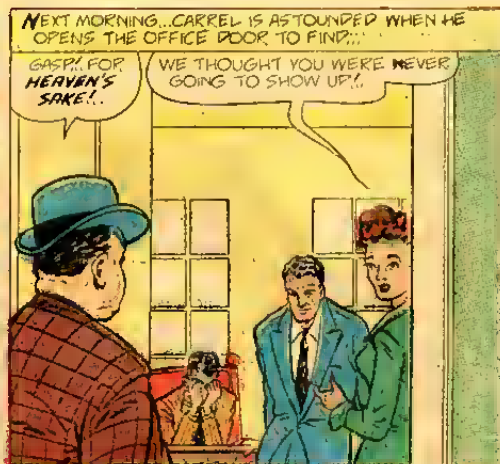






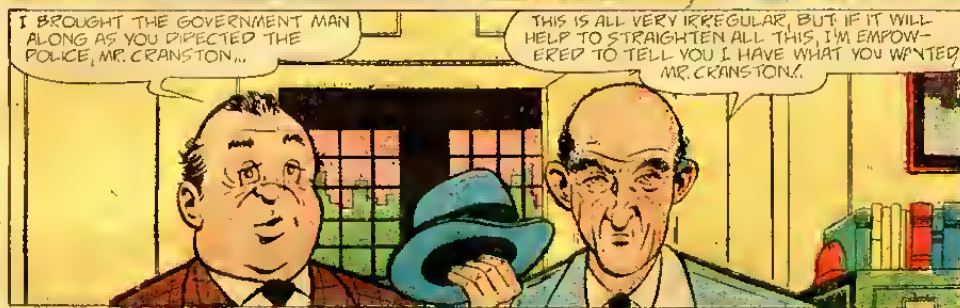
OOOOO!!

NOW THEN, WE'LL TALK FOR A WHILE AND THEN WE'LL GO TO CARREL'S OFFICE AND WAIT FOR THEM TO SHOW UP!



GASP!! FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE!!

WE THOUGHT YOU WERE NEVER GOING TO SHOW UP!!



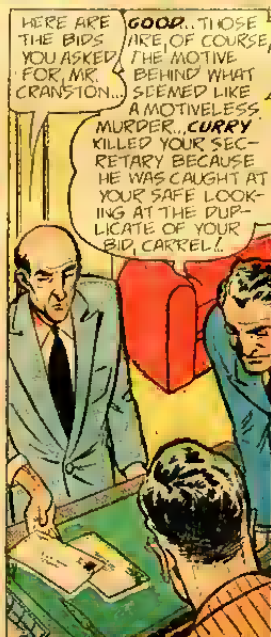
I BROUGHT THE GOVERNMENT MAN ALONG AS YOU DIRECTED THE POLICE, MR. CRANSTON...

THIS IS ALL VERY IRREGULAR, BUT IF IT WILL HELP TO STRAIGHTEN ALL THIS, I'M EMPOWERED TO TELL YOU I HAVE WHAT YOU WANTED MR. CRANSTON!



DO YOU MEAN THAT CURRY IS THE ONE BEHIND ALL THIS? I KNEW HE WAS A BUSINESS RIVAL, BUT WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN VERY FRIENDLY...

BAM!! YOU'VE GOT NOTHING ON ME... ATTEMPTED ASSAULT IS THE MOST I CAN BE CHARGED WITH!



HERE ARE THE BIDS YOU ASKED FOR, MR. CRANSTON...

GOOD... THOSE ARE, OF COURSE, THE MOTIVE BEHIND WHAT SEEMED LIKE A MOTIVELESS MURDER. CURRY KILLED YOUR SECRETARY BECAUSE HE WAS CAUGHT AT YOUR SAFE LOOKING AT THE DUPLICATE OF YOUR BID, CARREL!



PROVE IT! ANYHOW, WHY WOULD I DO THAT? MY BID WAS IN THE MAIL... THE PROOF IS THAT THE GOVERNMENT MAN BROUGHT IT...

YES, THAT IS THE BIG PUZZLE... WHAT GOOD DID YOU THINK KNOWING THE AMOUNT OF CARREL'S BID WAS? BUT FIRST, ABOUT THE MURDER...



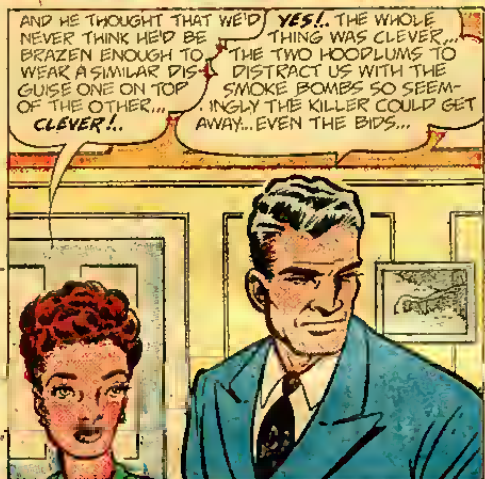
**MURDER, BAM!**...UNLESS YOU CAN GIVE A REASON FOR THE MURDER YOU'RE JUST TALKING THROUGH YOUR HAT!...

BUT CRANSTON... CURRY WORE A PAPER SUIT... LIKE THE ONE THE KILLER DID... AND HE SAID HE SAW THE KILLER IN THE **DUPLICATE** SUIT...



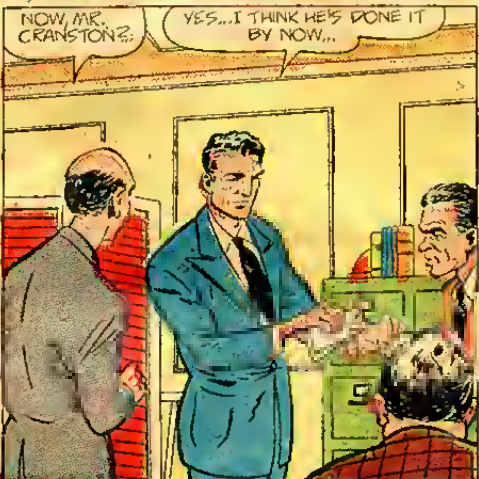
HE WORE ONE PAPER SUIT ON TOP OF ANOTHER PAPER SUIT... THAT WAS WHAT CLEARED VARLEY, YOUR PARTNER... THE PAPER SUIT **WOULD NOT** HAVE FITTED ON TOP OF THE TWEEDLE- DUM COSTUME...

I SEE!... AND HE TOLD THAT TALE JUST TO SHOW THERE **WAS SOMEONE ELSE** IN THE PAPER SUIT... HE **PLANTED THE LOOT** ON VARLEY!



AND HE THOUGHT THAT WE'D NEVER THINK HE'D BE BRAZEN ENOUGH TO WEAR A SIMILAR DIS- GUISE ONE ON TOP OF THE OTHER... **CLEVER!!**

**YES!!**... THE WHOLE THING WAS CLEVER... THE TWO HOODLUMS TO DISTRACT US WITH THE SMOKE BOMBS SO SEEM- INGLY THE KILLER COULD GET AWAY... EVEN THE BIDS...



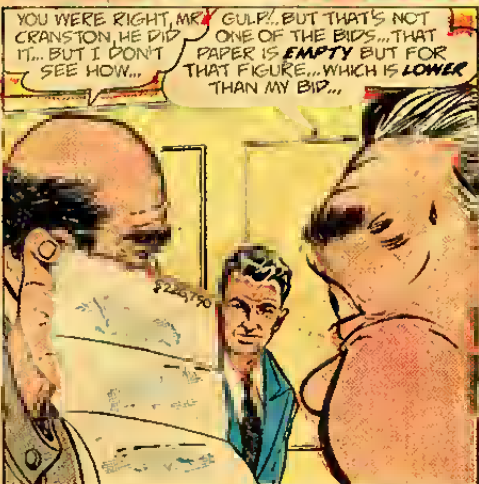
NOW, MR. CRANSTON?

YES... I THINK HE'S DONE IT BY NOW...



DON'T MOVE, CURRY!! HURRY AND OPEN THE ENVELOPE!!

**DONE WHAT?**... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WHAT ABOUT THE ENVELOPES...



YOU WERE RIGHT, MR. CRANSTON, HE DID IT... BUT I DON'T SEE HOW...

GULP! BUT THAT'S NOT ONE OF THE BIDS... THAT PAPER IS **EMPTY** BUT FOR THAT FIGURE... WHICH IS **LOWER** THAN MY BID...



**YOU KNEW!... YOU WEREN'T BLUFFING! I KNEW... YOU'RE FINISHED, CURRY! YOUR KILLING WAS IN VAIN!**



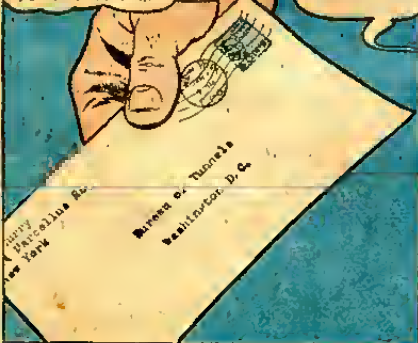
**LAMONT! THE WINDOW!... DON'T, YOU FOOL!**



**LAMONT, YOU'LL... / DON'T WORRY, THERE'S A FIRE ESCAPE OUT THERE... WHAT DID YOU JUST PICK UP?...**

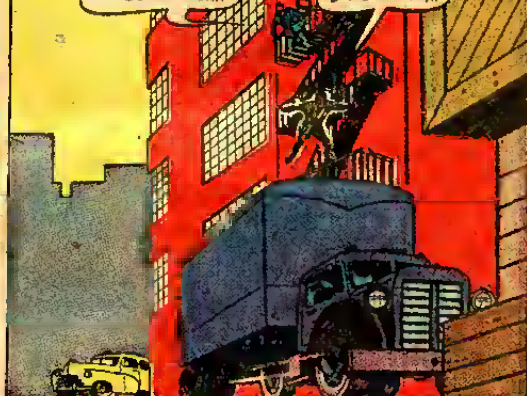


AS MR. CRANSTON DIRECTED, WE CAREFULLY OPENED THIS ENVELOPE THAT CURRY HAD SENT HIS BID IN AND FOUND THAT WHERE THE BID SHOULD BE WAS BLANK...WE TOOK IT OUT AND PUT A BLANK PIECE OF PAPER BACK IN AND SEALED IT UP... BUT WHY?

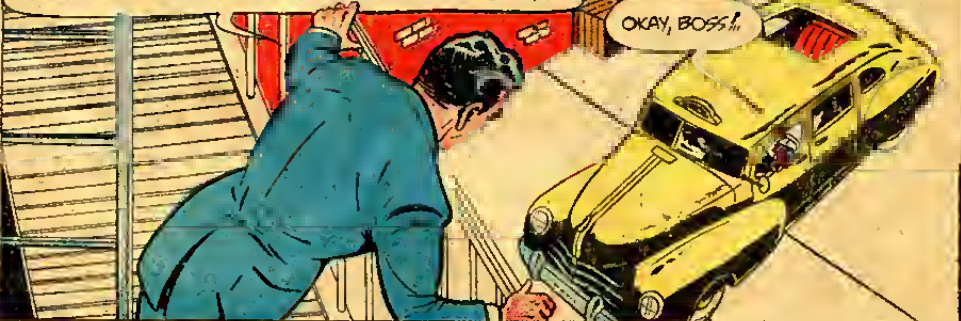


**BUT THE ANSWER MUST WAIT YET!...**

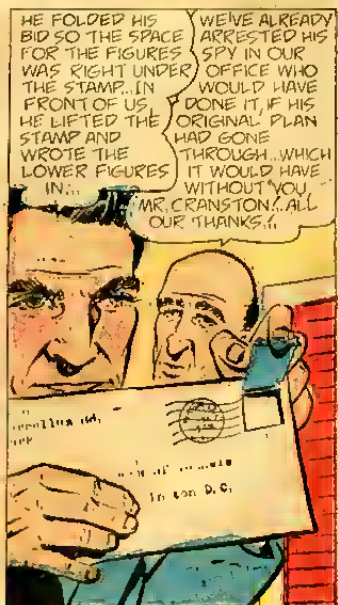
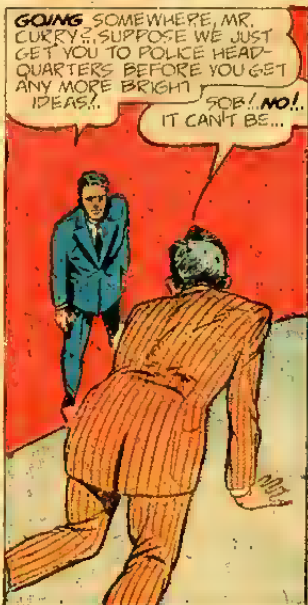
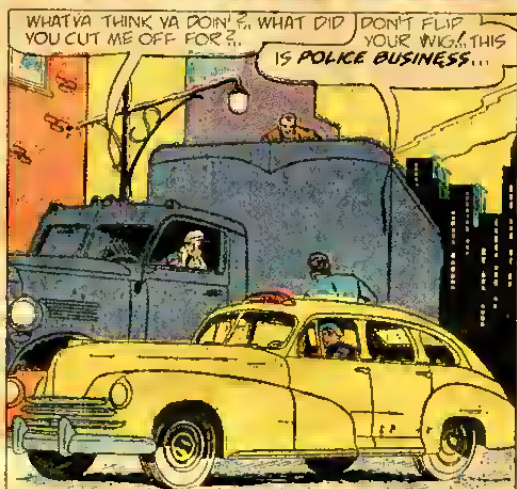
**CURRY... STOP! YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY... HA! TRY AND STOP ME!**



**SHREVVIE!... OPEN THE TOP... QUICKLY!... NO TIME TO LOSE!...**



**OKAY, BOSS!...**

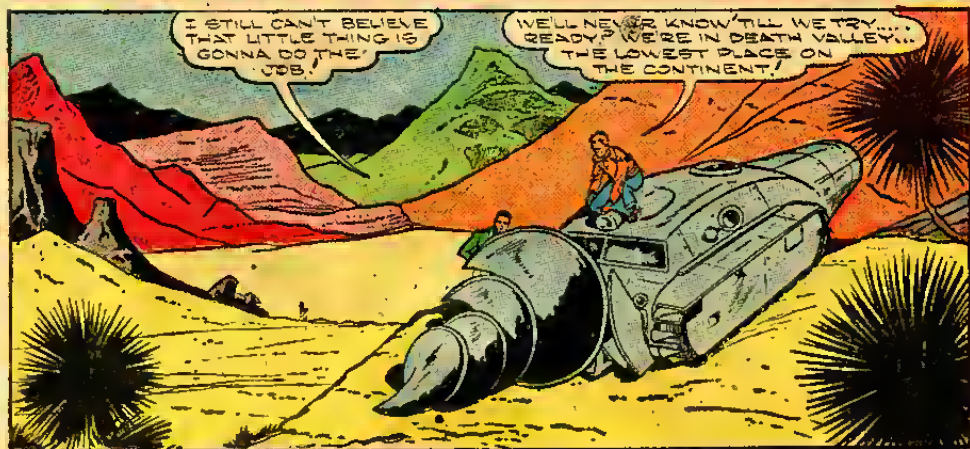
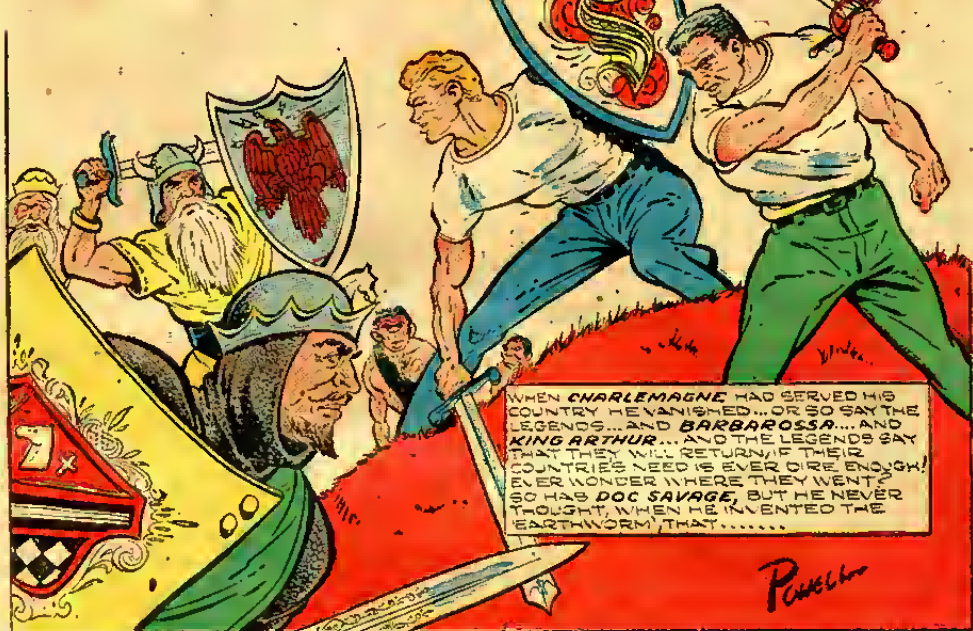


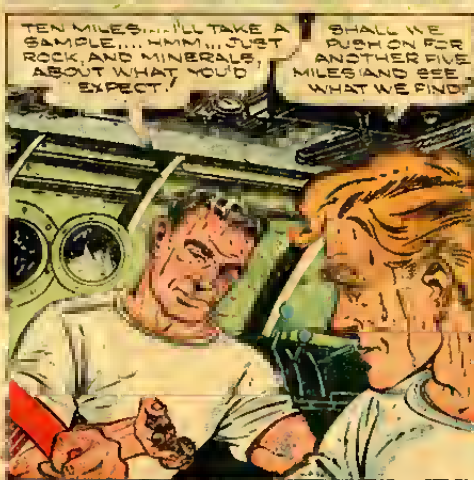
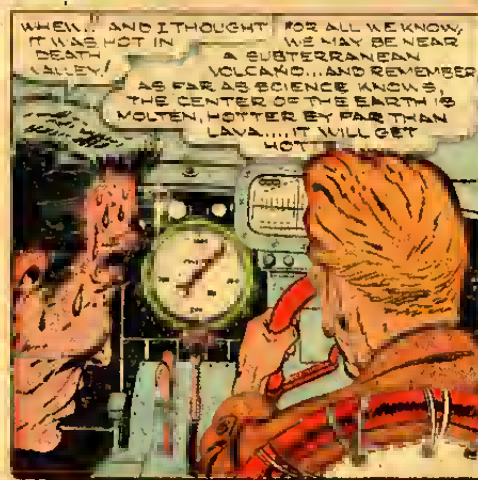
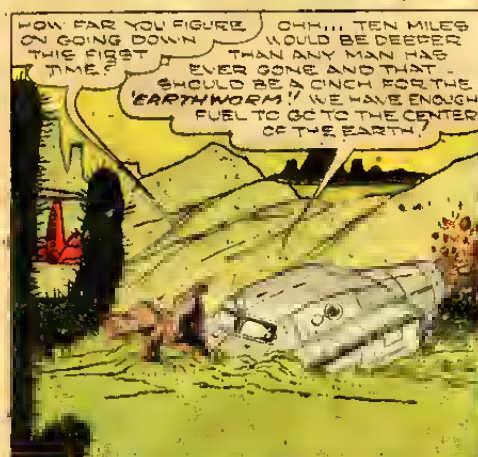
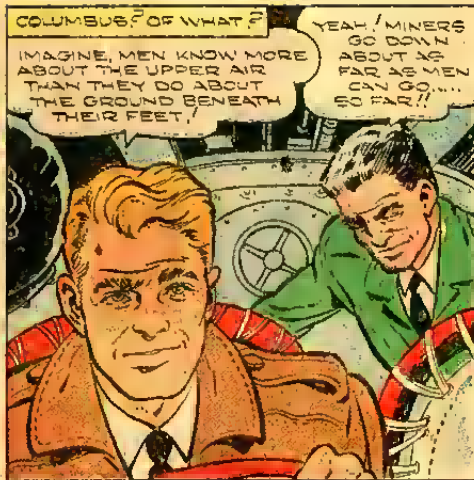
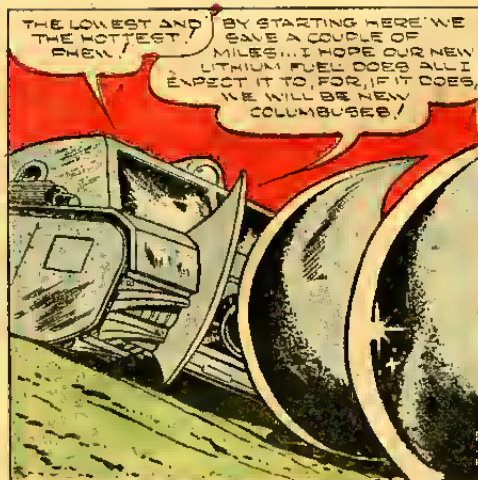


# DOC SAVAGE

IN

# LIMBO OF THE LOST





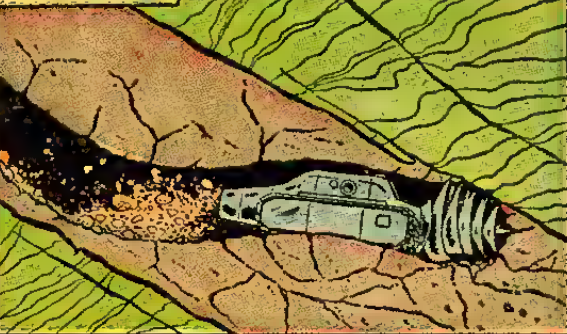


FIVE MORE MILES.... FIFTEEN MILES UNDER THE EARTH... FURTHER THAN ANY MAN HAS EVER GONE... BUT THE HEAT HAS GONE UP AND UP....

GASP... DOC, I CAN'T TAKE MUCH MORE... IT'S 150 DEGREES AND GOING HIGHER! WE COME DOWN AGAIN WE'LL HAVE TO HAVE SOME KIND OF SUPER AIR CONDITIONER... I'LL TURN NOW!



BUT WHAT EVEN DOC CAN'T KNOW IS THAT OUTSIDE THE 'EARTHWORM', THERE'S A STRATA OF VOLCANIC HARD ROCK....



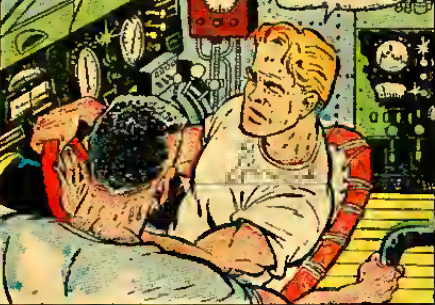
MONK... I CAN'T START THE SLOW TURN THAT WOULD LEAD US BACK UP... WE MUST HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING A SOFT VEIN... WE'RE SURROUNDED WITH SOME ROCK OR SUBSTANCE SO HARD THAT THE 'EARTHWORM' CAN'T CUT US THROUGH IT!!

GASP! I CAN'T MAKE IT TURN EITHER!

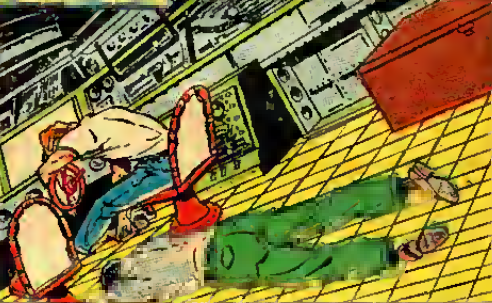


DOC, WHAT'LL WE DO? WE CAN'T BACK UP AND WE CAN'T TURN... IF WE STAY HERE WE'LL DIE OF HEAT... OR THIRST!!

THIS IS THE ONE THING I COULDN'T PREDICT... THE ONLY THING I CAN GEE IS TO GO ON AND SEE IF WE CAN CUT THROUGH TO THE END OF THIS STRATA OF HARD ROCK!



DOWN... DOWN... EVER DOWNWARDS THE MACHINE EATS ITS WAY... TWENTY MILES... THIRTY MILES... AND THEN....



UNCONSCIOUS FROM THE TREMENDOUS HEAT, DOC AND MONK DON'T EVEN KNOW WHEN THEY REACH 100 MILES UNDER THE SURFACE... BUT HERE, A STRANGE COOL THING OCCURS... IT BEGINS TO GET COOL....



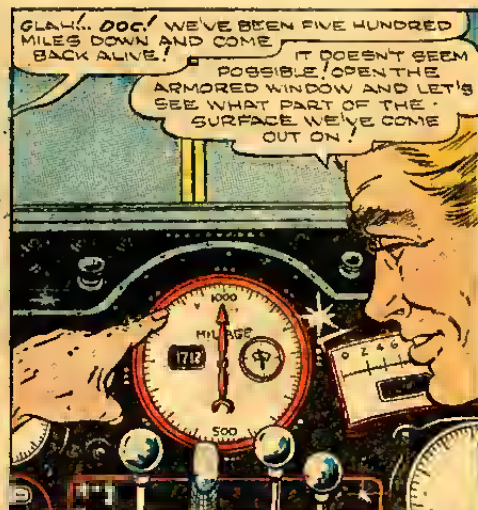
AND THE 'EARTHWORM' GOES DEEPER... DEEPER... DOWN TOWARDS THE CENTER OF THE EARTH....



HOURS PASS.... MILES.... AND SUDDENLY... THERE IS A TREMENDOUS TURMOIL....

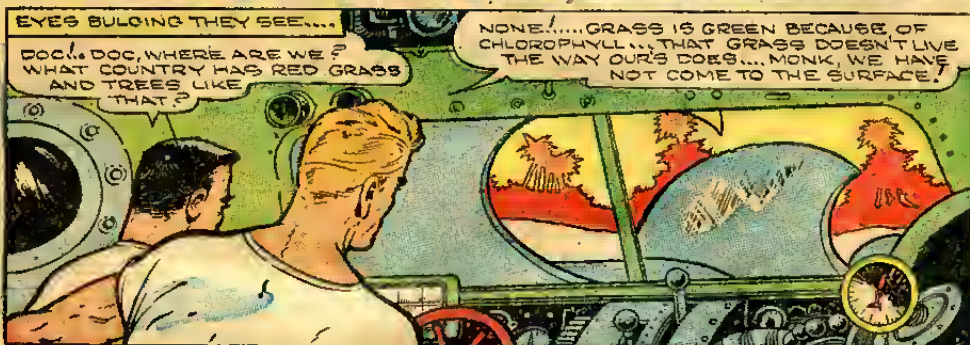
GASP!... DOC... I CAN BREATHE... IT'S COOL....

WE MUST HAVE PASSED OUT .... MONK... THE MACHINE MUST HAVE SOMEHOW REVERSED ITSELF... FOUND A SOFTER VEIN THAT WENT BACK UP TO THE SURFACE.... LOOK AT THE THERMOMETER... AND THE INDICATOR!



GLAY!... DOC! WE'VE BEEN FIVE HUNDRED MILES DOWN AND COME BACK ALIVE!

IT DOESN'T SEEM POSSIBLE! OPEN THE ARMORED WINDOW AND LET'S SEE WHAT PART OF THE SURFACE WE'VE COME OUT ON!



EYES BULGING THEY SEE....

DOC!... DOC, WHERE ARE WE? WHAT COUNTRY HAS RED GRASS AND TREES LIKE THAT?

NONE!.... GRASS IS GREEN BECAUSE OF CHLOROPHYLL... THAT GRASS DOESN'T LIVE THE WAY OURS DOES.... MONK, WE HAVE NOT COME TO THE SURFACE!



THEY SAMPLE THE AIR AND FIND IT WILL SUPPORT THEIR LIFE... THEN HESITANTLY MONK OPENS THE DOOR....

LOOK AT THAT FUNNY LITTLE SUN!

MONK!... THIS MEANS THAT SCIENCE IS WRONG... THAT THERE IS NO BURNING CENTER OF THE EARTH.... ALTHOUGH THERE MAY HAVE BEEN ONCE... THAT SUN IS THE REMNANT OF THE BOILING MASS....



THIS MEANS THAT THE EARTH IS INCALCULABLY OLDER THAN SCIENCE HAS THOUGHT, FOR IT TO HAVE COOLED THIS MUCH...

DOC... I HEAR SOMETHING... LISTEN....

CLANK!... CLANK!...



FANTASY OF FANTASIES... DOG AND MONK  
RUB THEIR EYES IN DISBELIEF.....

DOST FORFEIT THY  
DESIRE, ARTHUR?

BY THE LENGTH OF THY RED  
BEARD, FREDERICK, KNOWLEDGE  
HAS NOT GROWN WITH YOUR  
YEARS... NO, I DO NOT  
FORFEIT!

FREDERICK, THE BEARDED BARBLOSEA  
AND ARTHUR... KING ARTHUR  
OF CHAMELOT... CHAMPIONS OF  
CENTURIES GONE BY... YEAH, AND  
WHAT ABOUT THOSE CAVE-  
MEN? THEY LOOK  
EVEN MORE FEROCIOUS  
THAN THE OTHERS!

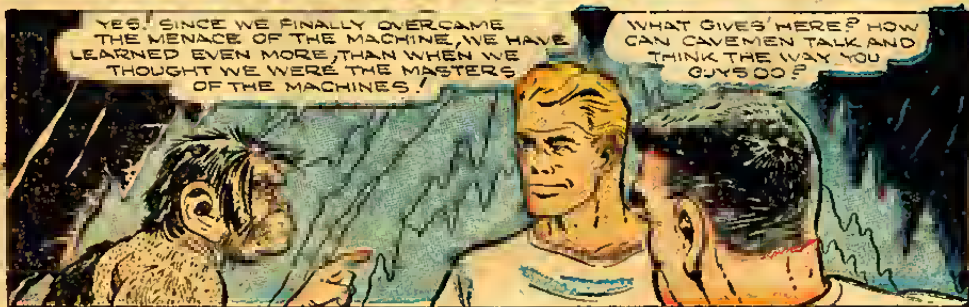
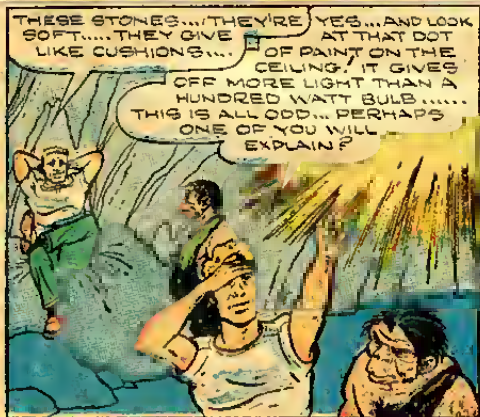
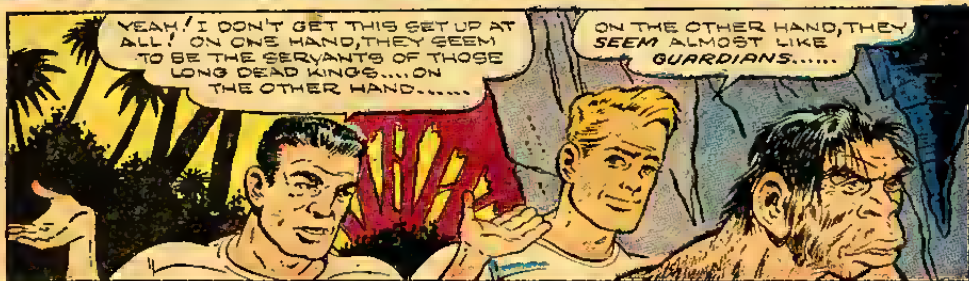
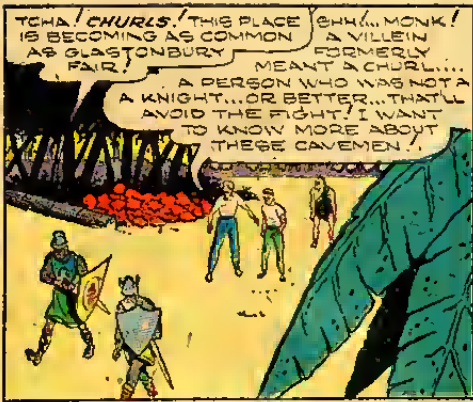
IT'S TIME AND PAST  
TIME THAT THE COM-  
BATANTS PAUSED FOR  
FOOD. THY SERVITORS  
WILL BRING THEE  
THY SUSTENANCE!

ARE YOU TWO AT IT  
AGAIN? MUST ALL  
OUR DAYS BE  
PASSED IN BRAWLING?  
BY MY HALDUM!  
THIS GETS MORE  
BORING THAN MAN  
CAN STAND. IF I WERE NOT  
CHARLEMAGNE, I'D LEAVE THIS  
PLACE OF STRANGE  
ENCHANTMENT!

WELCOME TO  
MERULAND.....

MERULAND? YOU MEAN MERLIN AMBROSIOUS  
WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE  
BEEN THE WIZARD AT  
KING ARTHUR'S COURT,  
A THOUSAND YEARS  
AGO! A THOUSAND  
YEARS? THEN  
YOU KNOW... SHH...  
THOSE OTHERS,  
THE KINGS MUST  
NOT BE DISABUSED!

HOW NOW, MORE HEROIC KINGS BROUGHT  
BY ENCHANTMENT TO THIS  
STRANGE LAND? HOW  
ARE YOU NOW,  
KNIGHTS OR..... TCH... THEY'VE  
SEEN YOU... NOW  
YOU'LL HAVE TO  
DUEL THEM IN  
MORTAL COMBAT!  
IT'S A PITY!



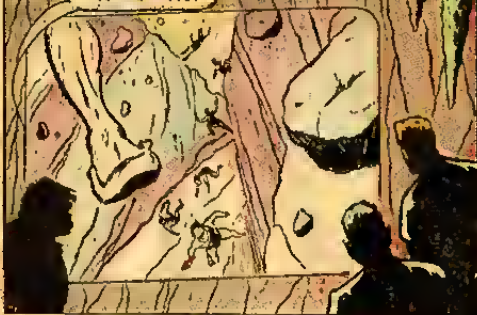


KNOW YOU, THAT ONCE A LONG AGO, WE WERE MEN OF THE SURFACE... BUT DURING WHAT YOU CALL THE ICE AGE, SOME OF US WERE TRAPPED!

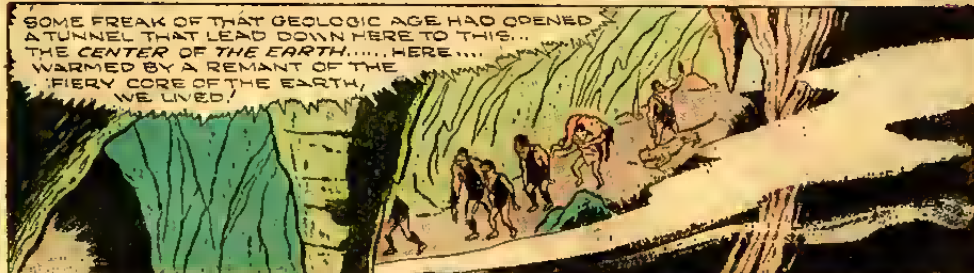
THE ICE AGE! GOOD GRIEF!



ALL SURFACE MEN WERE THEN IN THE STAGE THAT YOU CALL THE NEANDERTHAL... WE AS WELL AS YOU... SOME OF US FELL IN A CREVASSE... IT LEAD DOWNWARDS... IT WAS WARM... VERY WARM...

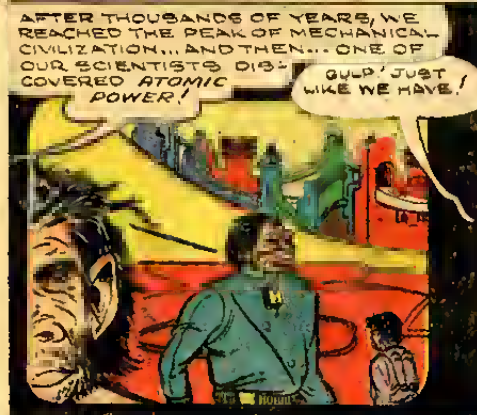


SOME FREAK OF THAT GEOLOGIC AGE HAD OPENED A TUNNEL THAT LEAD DOWN HERE TO THIS... THE CENTER OF THE EARTH... HERE... WARMED BY A REMNANT OF THE FIERY CORE OF THE EARTH... WE LIVED!



AFTER THOUSANDS OF YEARS, WE REACHED THE PEAK OF MECHANICAL CIVILIZATION... AND THEN... ONE OF OUR SCIENTISTS DISCOVERED ATOMIC POWER!

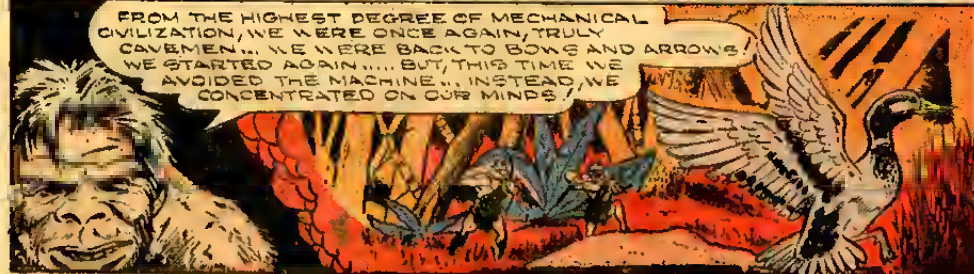
OULD JUST LIKE WE HAVE!

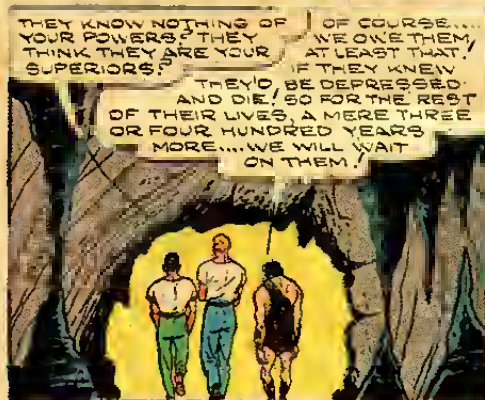
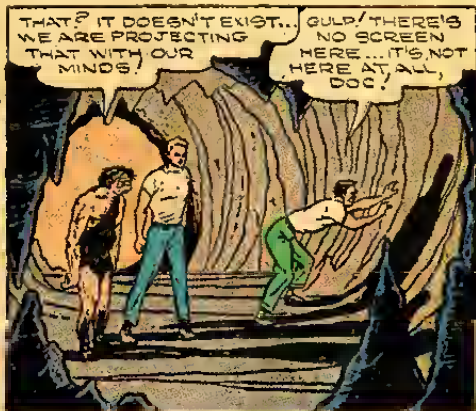


I WON'T SHOW YOU PICTURES OF WHAT FOLLOWED! SOON THERE WERE BUT A HANDFUL OF US LEFT... IT WAS THEN...



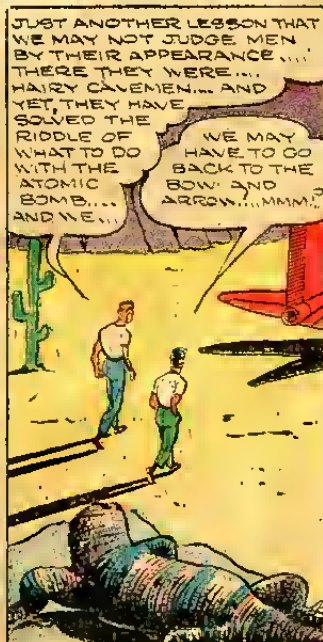
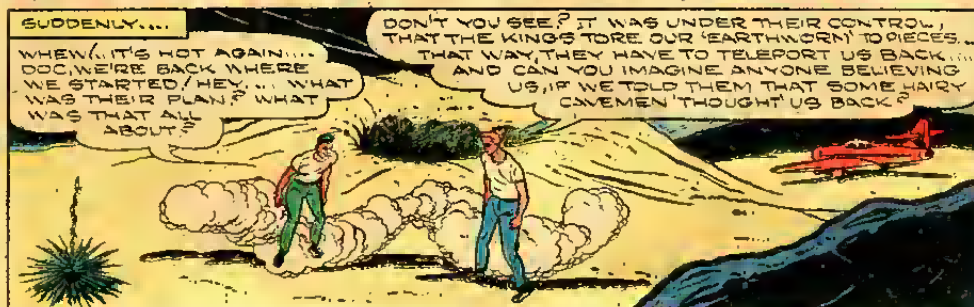
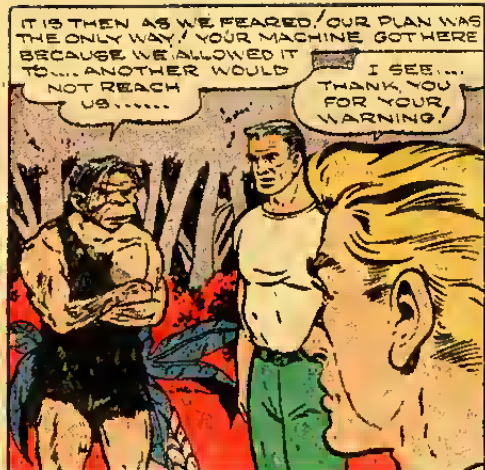
FROM THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF MECHANICAL CIVILIZATION, WE WERE ONCE AGAIN, TRULY CAVEMEN... WE WERE BACK TO BOWS AND ARROWS! WE STARTED AGAIN... BUT, THIS TIME WE AVOIDED THE MACHINE... INSTEAD, WE CONCENTRATED ON OUR MINDS!













# Nick Carter

Master Detective  
IN THE

## CASE OF THE QUEER MONEY



THEY CALL IT 'QUEER DOUGH' IN THE CIRCLES WHERE THEY MAKE IT... AND THEY'VE BEEN MAKING MORE OF IT LATELY THAN EVER BEFORE... IT'S SHOWING UP ALL OVER THE WORLD... MORE OUTSIDE THE U.S. WHERE IT'S NOT EASILY DETECTABLE... 'QUEER DOUGH' IS COUNTERFEIT MONEY... WHEN NICK CARTER GRANTED AN APPOINTMENT TO MRS. LEDVIC ZOLTER, HE WAS UNKNOWNLY OPENING THE CASE-BOOK OF ONE OF HIS MOST DANGEROUS ADVENTURES....

...BUT WHY HAVEN'T YOU REPORTED YOUR HUSBAND'S DISAPPEARANCE TO THE POLICE, MRS. ZOLTER?

BE... BECAUSE... WE ARE IN THE U.S... IL... ILLEGALLY....

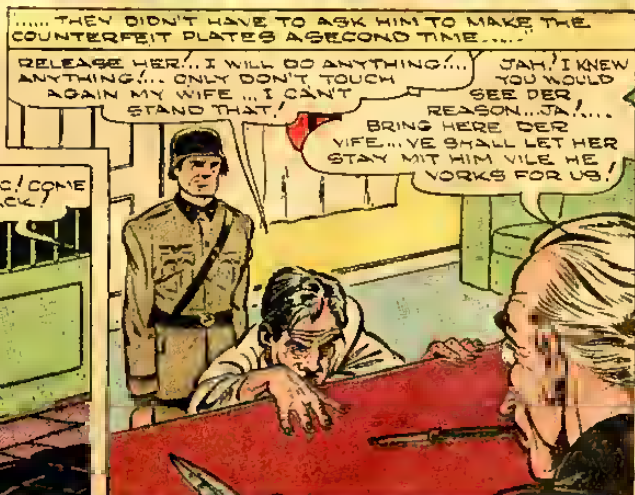
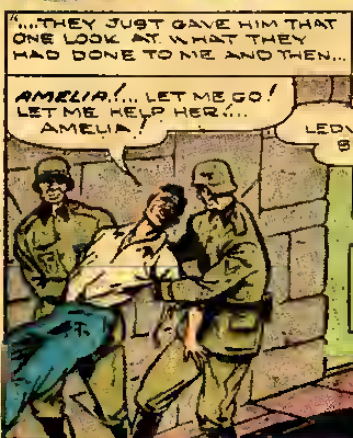
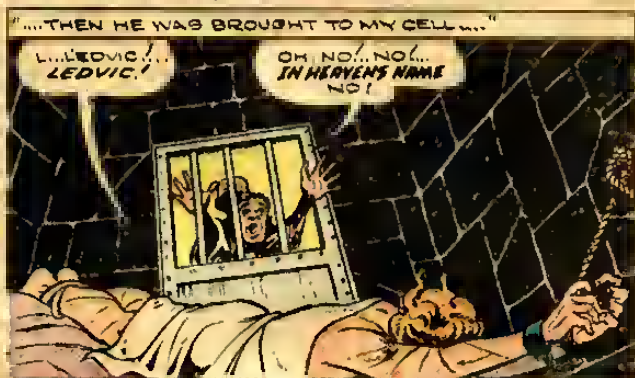
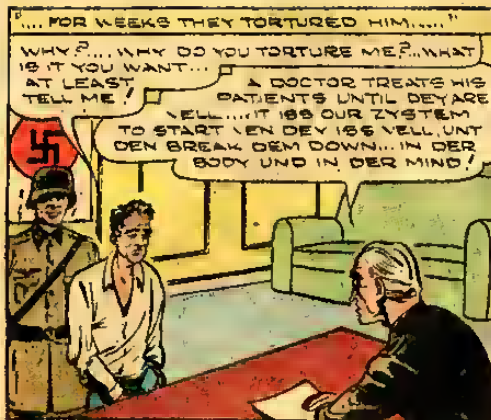
AND... YOU'VE COME TO ME THINKING I'D HELP YOU BECAUSE I'M A PRIVATE DETECTIVE AND NOT REPORT YOU TO THE IMMIGRATION OFFICERS?... OF ALL THE NERVE!!

NO... OH, NO! PLEASE, I'M ALONE HERE! IT'S HELP AND ADVICE I NEED BY SOMEONE WHO CAN HEAR MY STORY AND NOT ENDANGER THE LIFE OF MY HUSBAND!

VERY WELL, I'LL HEAR YOUR STORY... BUT THE OFFICIALS MUST BE NOTIFIED OF YOUR PRESENCE HERE ILLEGALLY... GO AHEAD....

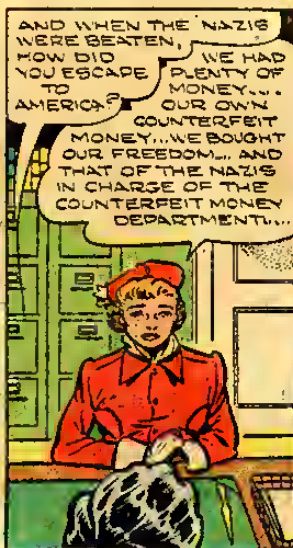
BEGON IT 1938... BEFORE THE WAR... MY HUSBAND IS THEN A HUNGARIAN ARTIST, FAMOUS FOR HIS STEEL ENGRAVINGS... WHEN CAME THE WAR, HE WAS KIDNAPPED TO GERMANY....



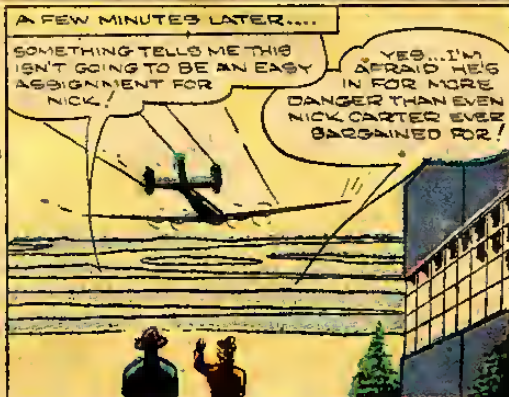
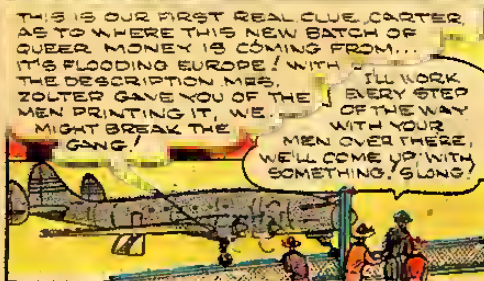


TUNE IN EACH WEEK TO **NICK CARTER** OVER MUTUAL NETWORK





THE FOLLOWING DAY, WITH MRS ZOLTER IN THE HANDS OF THE IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS, NICK RECEIVES FINAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM ART TRASK, TREASURY AGENT, AS NICK PREPARES TO LEAVE FOR FRANCE....

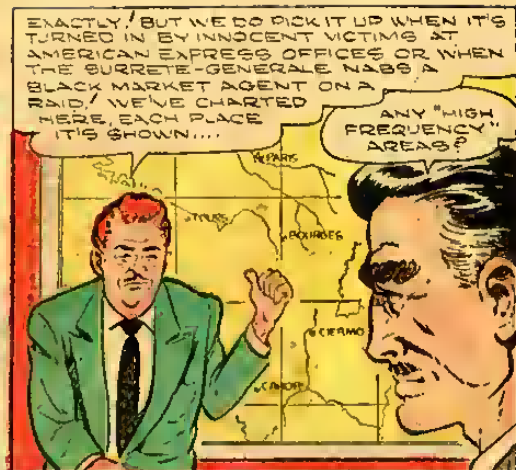
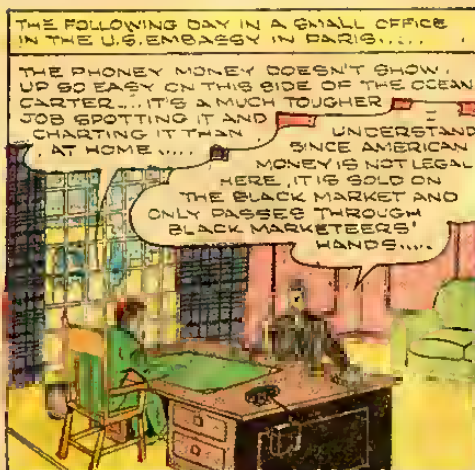


SUNDAY EVENING  
6:30 P.M. EST.

sponsored by

OLD DUTCH  
CLEANSER







15 HOURS LATER, NICK CARTER IS IN MARSEILLES IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE WITH ONLY A VAGUE PLAN OF ACTION AS TO HOW HE WILL MAKE CONTACT WITH THE COUNTER FEITERS....



POST, EXCUSEZ-MOI, MONSIEUR... ES, CE QUE VOUS AVEZ LES DOLLARS A VENDRE? (EXCUSE ME, MISTER... DO YOU HAVE DOLLARS TO SELL?)



J'AI PERDU AUX CARTES MES DOLLARS.... A LORS, JE NE PU PAS QUITTER LA FRANCE SI JE N'AI PAS TOUTE QUE TE AVAIS! (I LOST MY DOLLARS PLAYING CARDS... SO I CANT LEAVE FRANCE UNTIL I HAVE ALL THAT I HAD.)



FOR SEVERAL HOURS NICK CONTINUES THE SAME PROCEDURE IN ONE BAR AFTER ANOTHER AND ALWAYS RECEIVING THE SAME ANSWER.....



FINALLY, TIRED BUT NOT AS DISCOURAGED AS HE LOOKS, NICK GETS INTO A WAITING CAB....

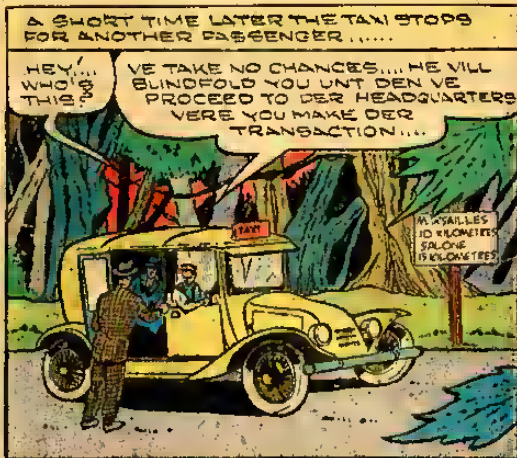


AFTER FIVE MINUTES, NICK REALIZES THAT THE DRIVER IS NOT TAKING HIM IN THE DIRECTION OF THE HOTEL....



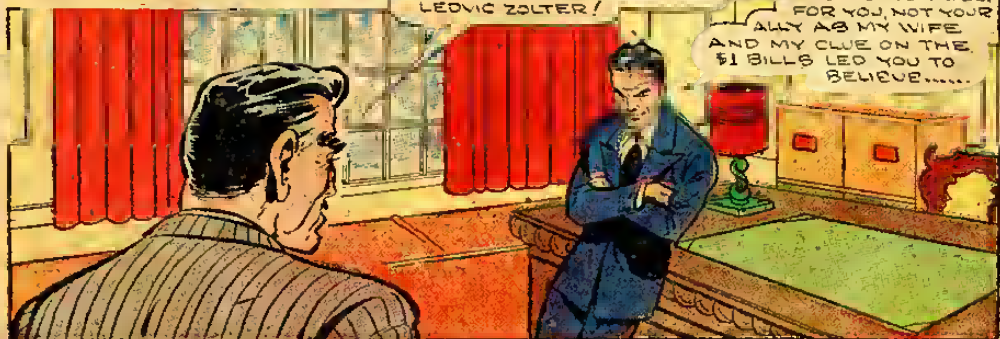
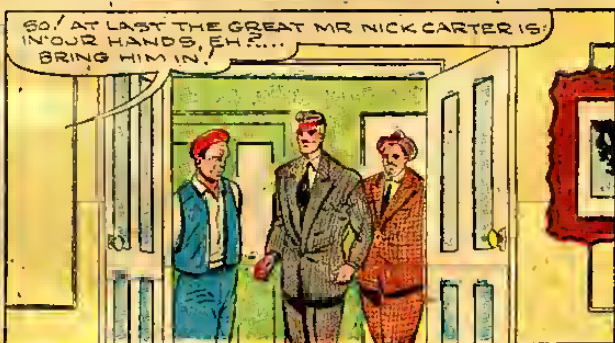
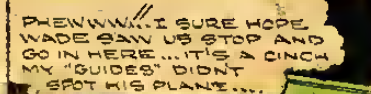
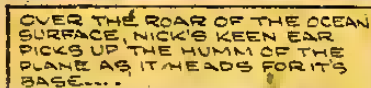
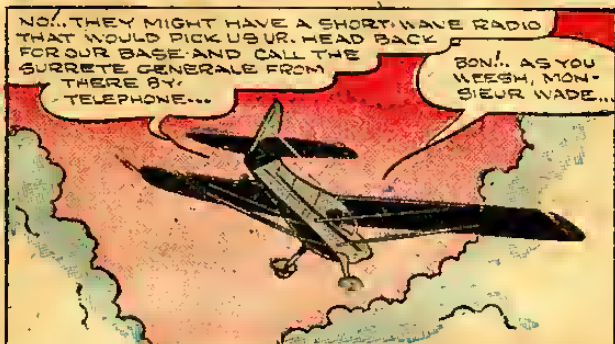
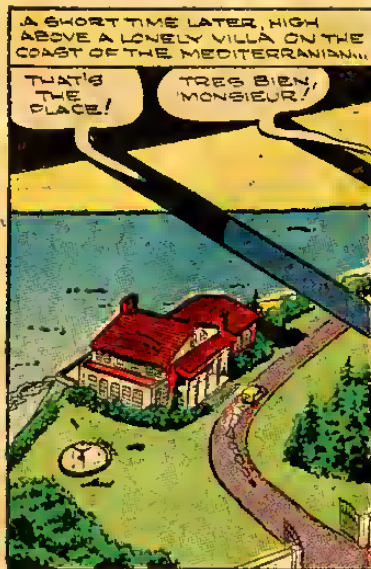
ARRETEZ!...(STOP!)

RELAX!... UNT YOU CAN SPEAK ENGLISH.... YOU VISH AMERICAN DOLLARS, JAH?..... VELL, I TAKE YOU WHERE YOU CAN BUY DEM!

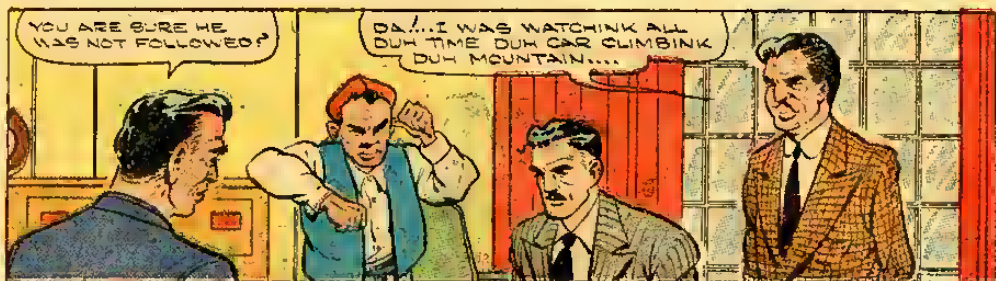






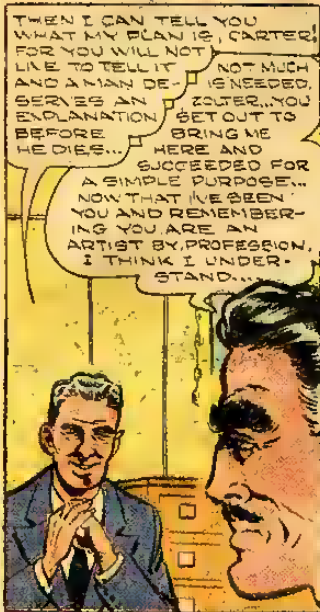






YOU ARE SURE HE WAS NOT FOLLOWED?

OH... I WAS WATCHING ALL THE TIME OUR CAR CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN....



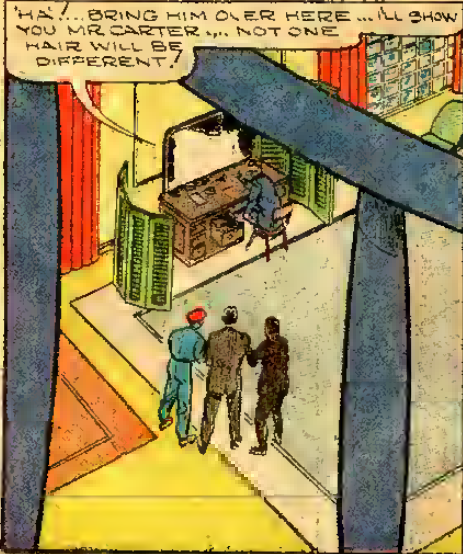
THEN I CAN TELL YOU WHAT MY PLAN IS, CARTER. FOR YOU WILL NOT LIVE TO TELL IT. I AM NOT MUCH OF A MAN OF WORDS. BUT I CAN BRING YOU TO THE POINT OF NO RETURN. BEFORE BRINGING ME HERE... HERE AND SUCCEEDED FOR A SIMPLE PURPOSE... NOW THAT I HAVE BEEN YOUR FRIEND, REMEMBER... YOU ARE AN ARTIST BY PROFESSION. I THINK I UNDERSTAND...



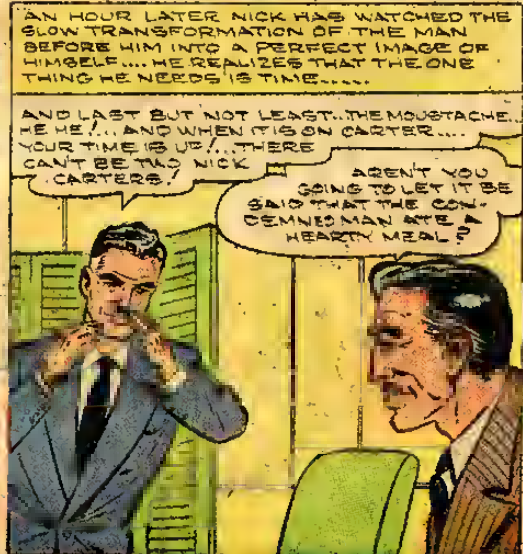
OH... I WAS WATCHING ALL THE TIME OUR CAR CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN....



THEN... I WILL BUILD THE FUTURE WHICH YOU COMMAND. BUT I WILL NOT BE A MAN OF WORDS. I WILL BRING YOU TO THE POINT OF NO RETURN. BEFORE BRINGING ME HERE... HERE AND SUCCEEDED FOR A SIMPLE PURPOSE... NOW THAT I HAVE BEEN YOUR FRIEND, REMEMBER... YOU ARE AN ARTIST BY PROFESSION. I THINK I UNDERSTAND...



HA... BRING HIM OVER HERE... I'll SHOW YOU MR CARTER... NOT ONE HAIR WILL BE DIFFERENT.

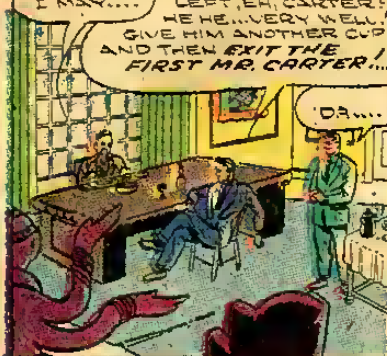


AN HOUR LATER NICK HAS WATCHED THE SLOW TRANSFORMATION OF THE MAN BEFORE HIM INTO A PERFECT IMAGE OF HIMSELF... HE REALIZES THAT THE ONE THING HE NERD IS TIME....

AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST... THE MOUSTACHE. HE HEARS WHEN THE MAN CARTER... YOUR TIME IS UP... THERE CAN BE NO MORE... NICK CARTER... AREN'T YOU GOING TO LET IT BE SAID THAT THE COL. GERMEN MAN ATE A HEARTY MEAL?

PERFECTLY CONFIDENT AND IN A GOOD HUMOR, ZOLTER FULFILLS NICK'S REQUEST FOR A LARGE MEAL... IT'S PREPARATION AND EATING CONSUMES MORE VALUABLE TIME... BUT FINALLY....

THAT WAS FINE... FINE... BUT I'D LIKE A LITTLE MORE COFFEE IF I MAY...  
 DRAGGING OUT THE SHORTTIME LEFT, EH, CARTER? HE HE...VERY WELL, GIVE HIM ANOTHER CUP AND THEN EXIT THE FIRST MR. CARTER!...



NOT ABLE TO WAIT LONGER, NICK ACTS!...

YAAAAA...

STOP HIM!



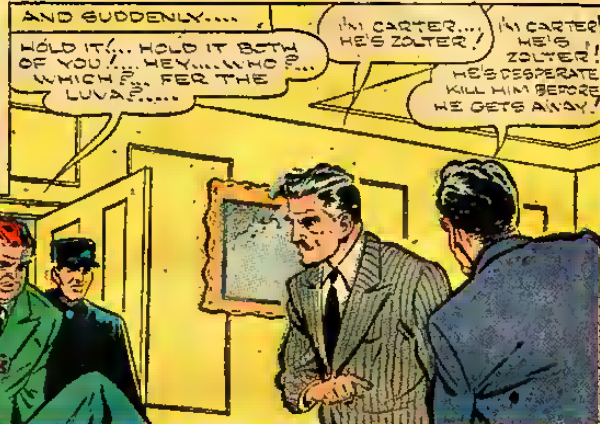
AND SUDDENLY....

HOLD IT... HOLD IT BOTH OF YOU!... HEY...WHO'S... WHICH?... FOR THE LUVAS....

IN CARTER... HE'S ZOLTER!

IN CARTER... HE'S ZOLTER!

HE'S DESPERATE, KILL HIM BEFORE HE GETS AWAY!



THERE'S NO FOOLING ME, ZOLTER... YOU GAVE YOURSELF AWAY!

YOU'RE HOW WRONG! COULD YOU TELL WADE! HIS MAKE UP IS PERFECT!



THE WINE GLASSES, NICK!... EVERYONE KNOWS THAT NICK CARTER DOESN'T DRINK! YOU SEE... EVEN A TREASURY MAN CAN BE A DETECTIVE!



LATER AFTER THE GANG HAS BEEN ROUNDED UP AND SENT BACK TO MARSHALLS A THOROUGH SEARCH TURNS UP ALL OF THE COUNTERFEIT PLATES...

THERE THEY ALL ARE NICK! THANKS TO YOUR DARING! WE'VE BROKEN UP THE BIGGEST COUNTERFEITING RING IN THE WORLD!

AND MUCH MORE MADE COUNTERFEITING WAS ONLY ONE MEANS OF GETTING A STRANGLE HOLD ON THE WORLD... THEY HAD MUCH BIGGER PLANS... AND THERE ARE MORE LIKE THEM THAT WE'VE GOT TO FIND AND DESTROY TOO!





# CRIME QUIZ

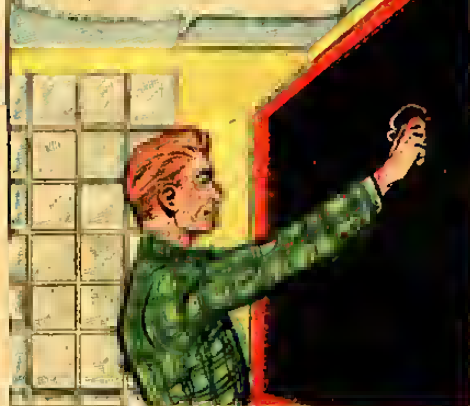
LET'S SEE WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT CRIME... DO YOU KNOW WHAT A MOLL BUZZER IS? I'LL GIVE YOU A HINT... IT'S A PERSON NOT AN ELECTRICAL DEVICE!...



MOLL, OF COURSE MEANS WOMAN, BUZZER MEANS A PICKPOCKET WHO BUZZES, LIFTS, PURSES BY OPENING WOMEN'S POCKETBOOKS, LIKE THIS!...



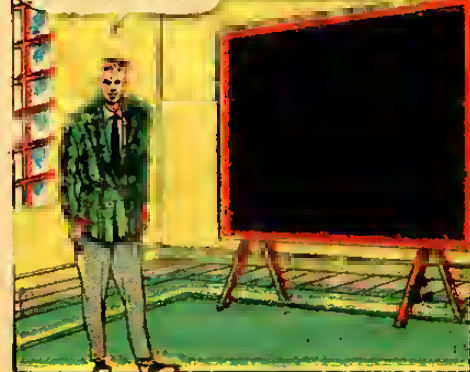
HERE'S AN EASY ONE... WHAT KIND OF CROOK IS CALLED A **SLEEPER**? NO, IT'S NOT SOMEONE WHO PRETENDS TO BE SLEEPY....



DID YOU GET THAT ONE? A SLEEPER IS A PURSE SNATCHER WHO STEALS FROM WOMEN WHO ARE INATTENTIVE BECAUSE OF SHOPPING FOR HATS AND LEAVE THEIR PURSE UNATTACHED!



HERE'S A PHRASE THAT MOST PEOPLE USE INCORRECTLY. THEY THINK A LUSH ROLLER STEALS FROM DRUNKS. THIS ISN'T ALWAYS SO... DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE TECHNIQUE OF LUSH ROLLER IS?...

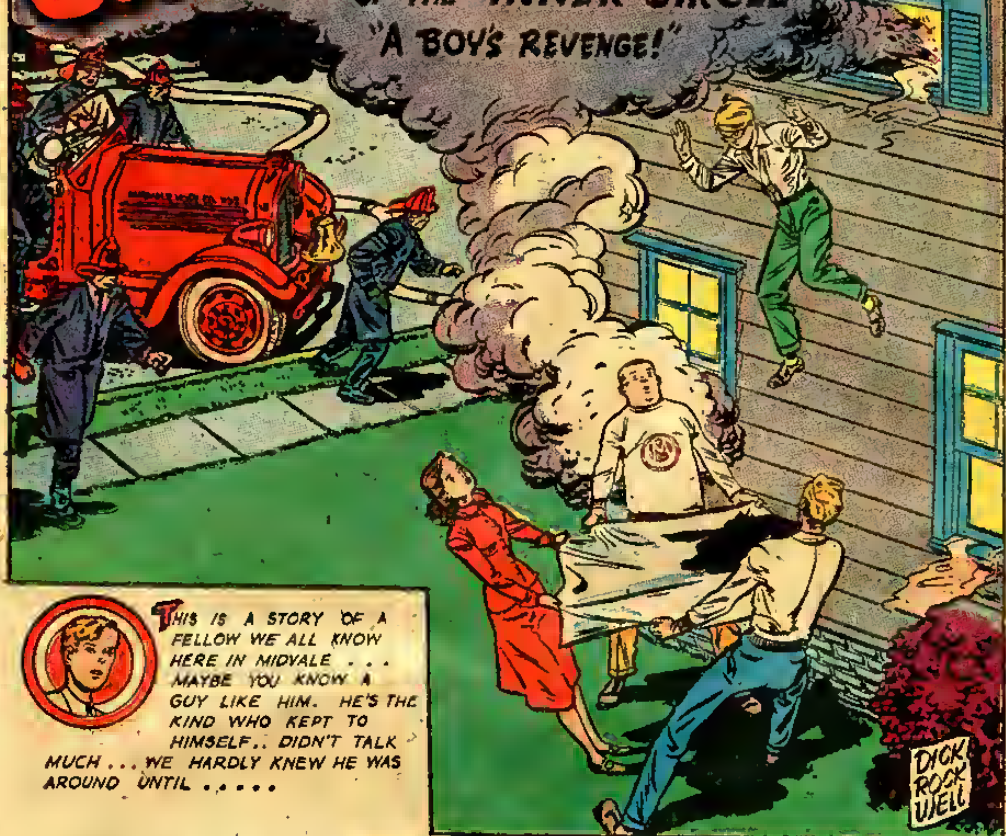


HERE'S THE WAY THESE VICIOUS THIEVES OPERATE... IN A CROWDED CONVEYANCE THEY SLIT A MAN'S POCKET OPEN WITH A RAZOR AND CATCH HIS WALLET AS IT FALLS OUT... THEY'RE NOT EVEN SKILLFUL ENOUGH TO BE PICKPOCKETS!...



# CHICK CARTER

OF THE INNER CIRCLE  
"A BOY'S REVENGE!"



THIS IS A STORY OF A  
FELLOW WE ALL KNOW  
HERE IN MIDVALE...  
MAYBE YOU KNOW A  
GUY LIKE HIM. HE'S THE  
KIND WHO KEPT TO  
HIMSELF.. DIDN'T TALK  
MUCH... WE HARDLY KNEW HE WAS  
AROUND UNTIL .....

...ONE DAY CROSSING THROUGH  
THE PARK ON THE WAY HOME  
SOMETHING HAPPENED...



I WAS JUST WINDING UP WHEN  
I HEARD THE RIDER'S CRY!

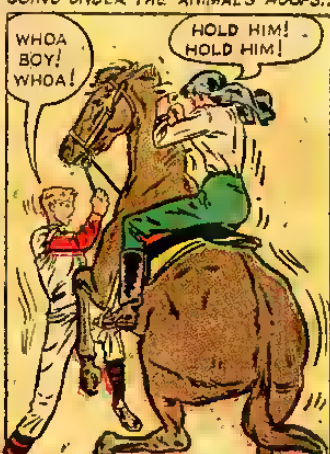




THERE WASN'T MUCH TIME TO GET OVER TO THE BRIDLE PATH ...

LUCK WAS WITH ME HOLDING ON, BUT THE FRIGHTENED HORSE KEPT GOING...

FOR A MINUTE I THOUGHT I WAS GOING UNDER THE ANIMAL'S HOOF..

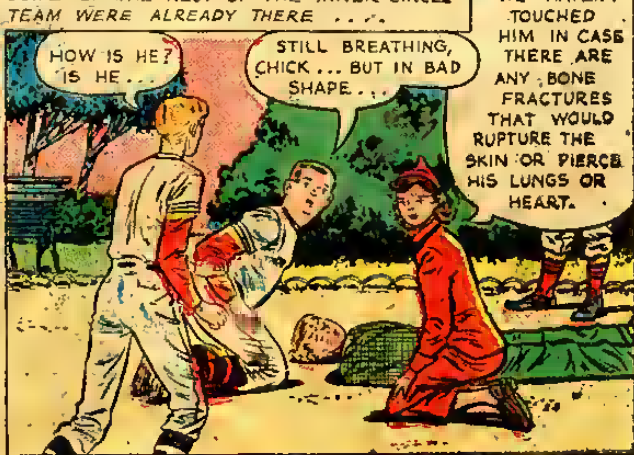


BUT LUCK STUCK BY ME AND I SOON HAD HIM IN HAND. THEN I REALIZED THE GIRL WAS TRYING TO TELL ME SOMETHING.....



THEN I SAW THE KID. I TOOK HER ALONE AND STARTED BACK!

BY THE TIME I GOT BACK, SUE, BIFF AND SOME OF THE REST OF THE INNER CIRCLE TEAM WERE ALREADY THERE ...



WE GOT TO A PHONE AND HAD AN AMBULANCE THERE IN TEN MINUTES. MEANTIME, WE PUT OUR INNER CIRCLE RED CROSS FIRST AID TRAINING TO WORK, COVERING HIM WELL, BUT NOT MOVING HIM...

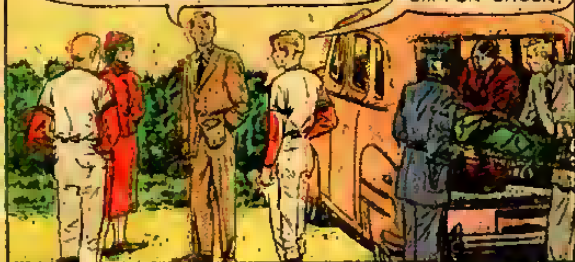
IT'S A GOOD THING YOU KIDS DIDN'T TRY TO MOVE HIM - NOT TELLING WHAT HARM YOU MIGHT HAVE DONE THE WAY HIS BONES ARE BROKEN

WE'VE ALL STUDIED FIRST AID DOCTOR... WE KNOW THE FIRST RULE IS NOT TO MOVE THE INJURED PERSON AND SECONDLY TO KEEP 'EM WARM AND TREAT 'EM FOR SHOCK!

I'VE SEEN THAT KID AROUND, CHICK... BUT I... WELL I DON'T EVEN KNOW HIS NAME...

ME TOO - NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, HE'S ALWAYS ALONE... NEVER MIXES WITH ANYBODY, STRANGE GUY...

HIS NAME'S TIM BORLICK... I ASKED HIM TO JOIN INNER CIRCLE ONCE... BUT HE WASN'T INTERESTED... HMMMM... WONDER WHY?



THAT'S HOW I GOT INTERESTED IN TIM. I VISITED HIM IN THE HOSPITAL THE NEXT DAY AND GOT TO KNOW HIS MOTHER AND FATHER. I HAPPENED TO HEAR THEM TALKING OUTSIDE HIS DOOR...

HARRY YOU MUST STAY UNTIL VISITING HOURS ARE OVER... I KNOW THE CIVIC BOOSTERS MEETING IS IMPORTANT, BUT SO IS TIM.

WHAT CAN I DO FOR HIM? HE'S GETTING THE BEST MEDICAL ATTENTION. TONIGHT'S MEETING IS IMPORTANT AND I'M ONLY WASTING...



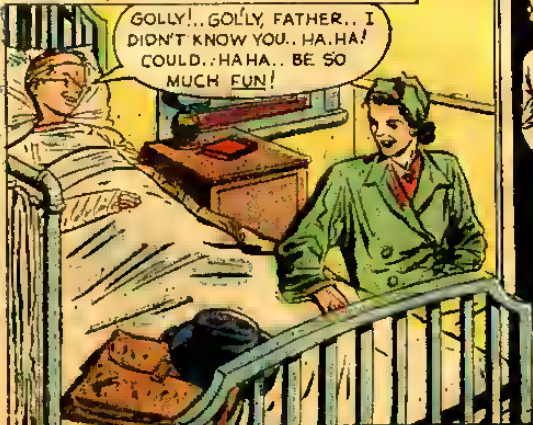
MOTHER... FATHER... YOU... YOU'RE NOT GOING ARE YOU?

OF COURSE NOT, TIMMY! WE'RE STAYING WITH YOU UNTIL VISITING HOURS ARE OVER

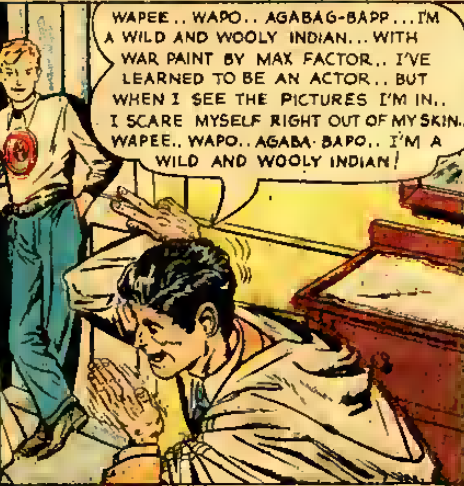


I STAYED WITH THEM AND WATCHED HIS FATHER FORGET HIS MEETING AND PUT ON A SHOW FOR HIS SON...

GOLLY!... GOLLY, FATHER... I DIDN'T KNOW YOU... HA, HA! COULD... HAHA... BE SO MUCH FUN!



WAPEE... WAPO... AGABAG-BAPP... I'M A WILD AND WOOLY INDIAN... WITH WAR PAINT BY MAX FACTOR... I'VE LEARNED TO BE AN ACTOR... BUT WHEN I SEE THE PICTURES I'M IN... I SCARE MYSELF RIGHT OUT OF MYSKIN. WAPEE... WAPO... AGABA-BAPO... I'M A WILD AND WOOLY INDIAN!





WHILE TIM WAS SICK, HIS FATHER AND MOTHER SPENT A LOT OF TIME WITH HIM AND HE CHANGED... BECAME A DIFFERENT KID. THEN, WHEN HE WAS ALMOST WELL....

B-BOTH OF YOU GOING OUT AGAIN TONIGHT?

YOU'RE A BIG FELLA NOW, TIM... YOU'RE WELL - DON'T YOU WANT ME TO HELP MAKE THIS A BETTER COMMUNITY TO LIVE IN?

AND, TIM... YOU KNOW I DO NEARLY ALL THE WORK IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD MYSELF TO HELP THE UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN AT "HELPING HAND CLUB..."

NOT REALIZING WHAT THEY WERE DOING TO TIM, THEY LEFT HIM ALONE ALMOST EVERY NIGHT....

GOLLY.. GOLLY.. GOLLY... SOB... SOB

FINALLY HE CAME BACK TO SCHOOL AND I MET HIM ON-THE STEPS AFTER CLASS....

HI, TIM... GLAD YOU'RE BACK... SAY - HOW ABOUT COMING OVER TO THE INNER CIRCLE CLUB ROOM AND GETTING ACQUAINTED, MAYBE JOINING UP?

OH-N-NO TH-THANKS GOTTA GO HOME

HI, CHICK!... WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU?

WHAT?... OH, HI, SUE... IT'S TIM.. CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIM AGAIN SINCE HE GOT OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, KEEPS TO HIMSELF.. STRANGE!

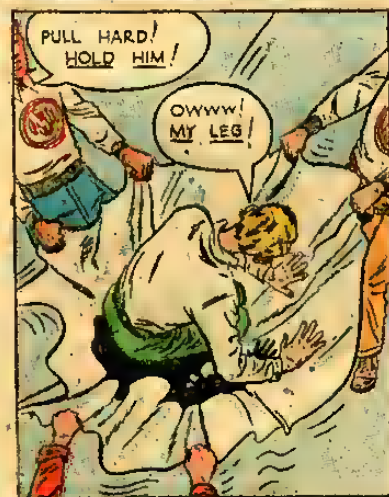
A FEW NIGHTS LATER, BIFF, SUE AND I WERE AT INNER CIRCLE HEADQUARTERS PLANNING THE WEEKS ACTIVITIES WHEN...

HEY... LOOKOUT THERE!

WHAT IS IT?

IT'S TIM BORLICK'S HOUSE!

... AND HE'S PROBABLY ALL ALONE IN IT - HIS PARENTS ARE NEVER HOME AT NIGHT!



MAYBE IT WAS FATE THAT WE INNER CIRCLE KIDS WERE AROUND THE SECOND TIME TIM GOT HURT. I'LL NEVER FORGET WHAT HE SAID AS THE DOCTOR PUT A SPLINT ON HIS LEG...

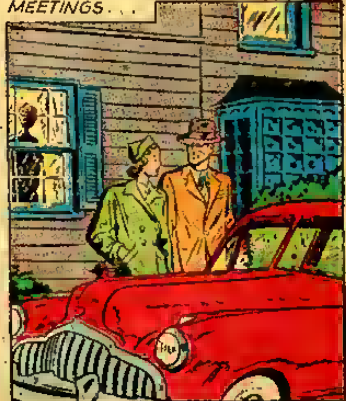




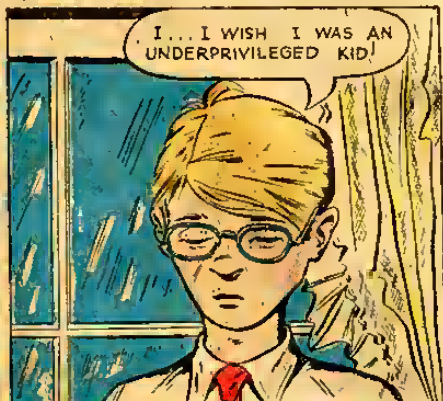


YOU SEE WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO TIM?... LONE-SOME, FOR HIS FOLKS HE WAS GLAD HE BROKE HIS LEG BECAUSE TO HIM IT REPRESENTED A CHANCE TO BE WITH THEM! HIS FUN WAS SHORT-LIVED.....

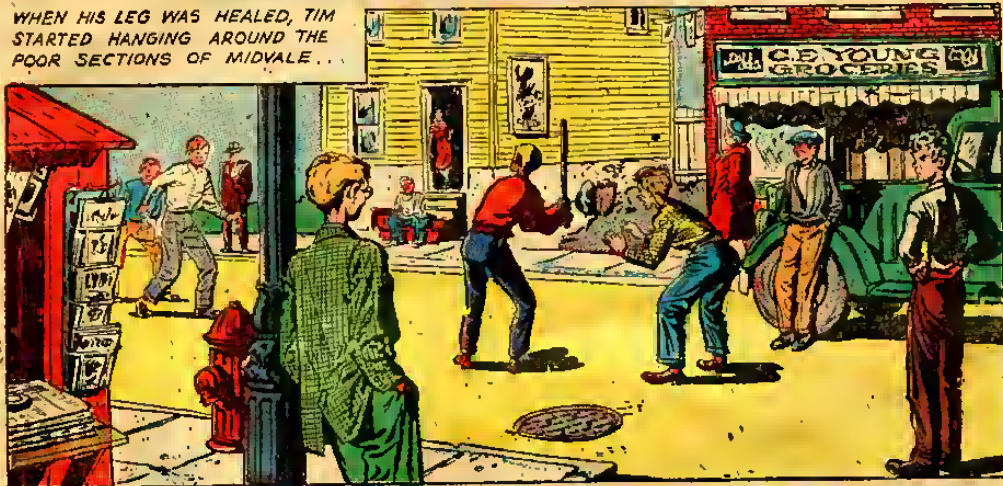
...FOR NO SOONER WAS HE HOME THAN THEY WERE OUT NIGHT AFTER NIGHT ATTENDING CIVIC CLUB AND UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN MEETINGS...



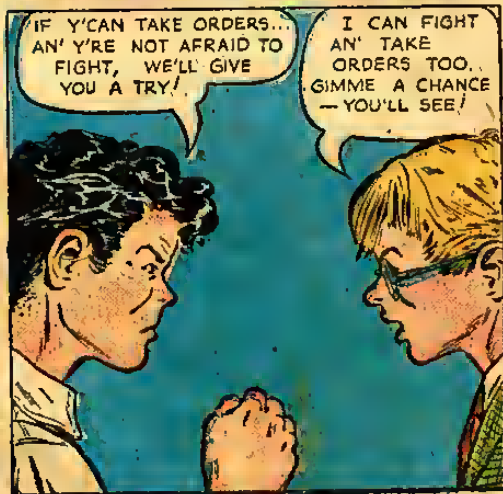
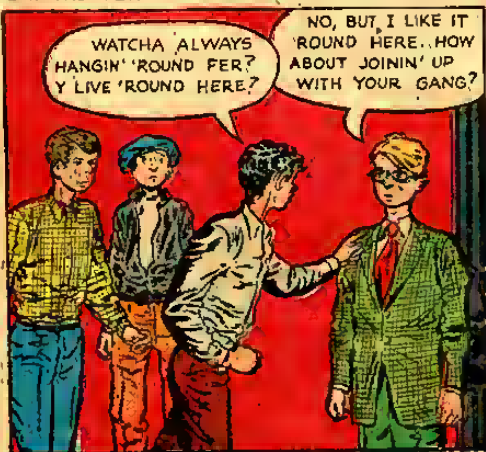
SURE—TIM FELT SORRY FOR HIMSELF AND NEGLECTED, HE DIDN'T BEGRUDGE UNDERPRIVILEGED KIDS HIS FOLKS' AFFECTION—BUT HE WANTED SOME FOR HIMSELF....



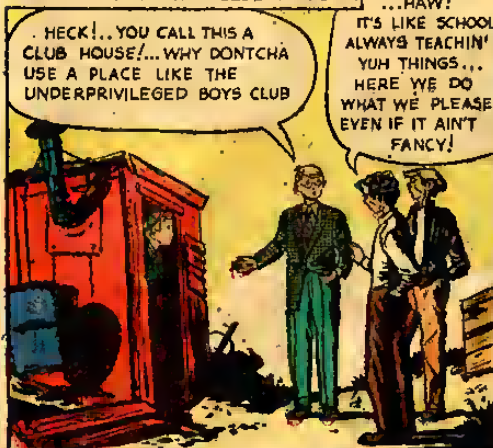
WHEN HIS LEG WAS HEALED, TIM STARTED HANGING AROUND THE POOR SECTIONS OF MIDVALE...



THEY BEGAN TO TAKE NOTICE OF HIM... ONE DAY THE LEADER OF A GANG GOT CURIOUS...



TIM WAS SHOWN AROUND...  
INTRODUCED TO THE CLUB HOUSE...



WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING, BUT STICKING  
TO HIS PROMISE TO OBEY AND FIGHT,  
TIM CHARGED IN WITH THE REST...  
THE FIGHT WAS ON!





TIM WAS HANDY WITH HIS MITTS  
FOR A KID HIS AGE....



BUT THE NEXT INSTANT...



...TIM WAS ON THE RECEIVING  
END!



A FEW MINUTES LATER, THE POLICE CAR ARRIVED  
TO BREAK IT UP...



COME ON... COME ON!  
SNAP OUT OF IT WILL  
YUH!? WE'LL GET  
NABBED!

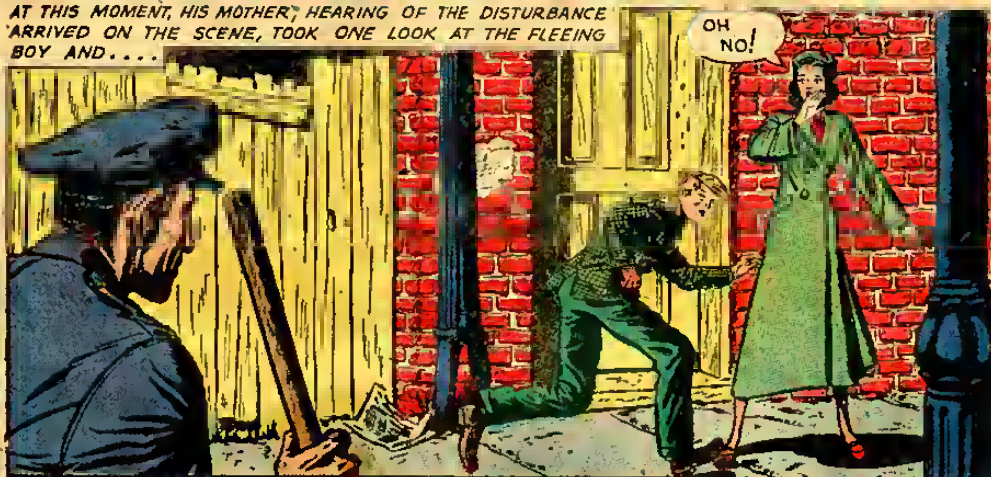


OKAY YUH! YOUNG HOODLUM  
Y'RE COMIN' WITH ME...





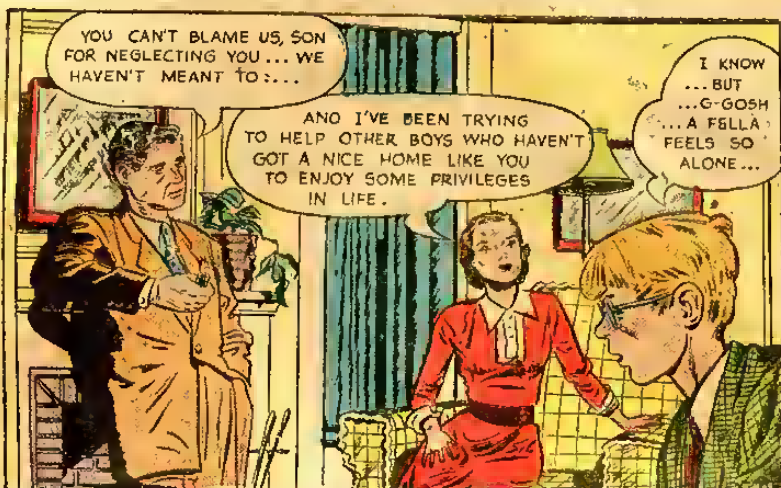
AT THIS MOMENT, HIS MOTHER, HEARING OF THE DISTURBANCE ARRIVED ON THE SCENE, TOOK ONE LOOK AT THE FLEEING BOY AND....







THAT WAS ABOUT IT—TIM'S MOTHER WAS TRYING TO HELP OTHER KIDS WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT MADE HER OWN SON TICK! SHE MEANT WELL BUT HER LACK OF UNDERSTANDING ALMOST RUINED TIM BECAUSE HE FELT LONELY AND NEGLECTED....



YOU CAN'T BLAME US, SON FOR NEGLECTING YOU... WE HAVEN'T MEANT TO...

AND I'VE BEEN TRYING TO HELP OTHER BOYS WHO HAVEN'T GOT A NICE HOME LIKE YOU TO ENJOY SOME PRIVILEGES IN LIFE.

I KNOW... BUT... G-GOSH... A FELLA FEELS SO ALONE...

MR. BORLICK KNEW THAT THE GULF SEPARATING THEM FROM THEIR SON NEEDED PULLING TOGETHER... SO HE WENT TO MRS. GARSON, A FAMILY COUNSELOR... A WONDERFUL LADY...

... BOTH YOU PARENTS ARE TO BE COMMENDED FOR YOUR DESIRE TO HELP OTHERS... BUT YOU SEE, TILL YOU UNDERSTAND YOUR OWN BOY YOU WON'T UNDERSTAND THOSE YOU TRY TO HELP!

MAYBE THAT EXPLAINS WHY NO MATTER HOW HARD I WORK TO TEACH THE UNDERPRIVILEGED I GET SO LITTLE RESPONSE.



THAT'S 'CAUSE YOU TREAT 'EM LIKE THEY'RE STILL IN SCHOOL, MOTHER... THEY TOLD ME...

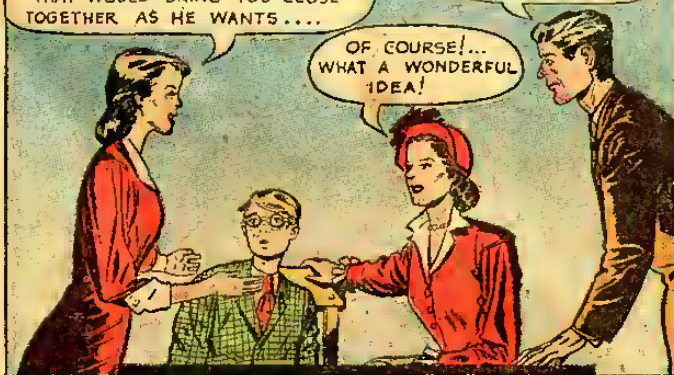
BUT HOW CAN I SHOW THEM IF I DON'T TEACH...

BY EXAMPLE, MRS. BORLICK.

...TIM HERE CAN BE A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR THEM, WHY LEAVE HIM ALONE? WHY NOT LET HIM HELP YOU IN YOUR WORK?... THAT WOULD BRING YOU CLOSE TOGETHER AS HE WANTS....

SOMETIMES EVEN INTELLIGENT PEOPLE ARE BLIND! BUT WE'VE SEEN THE LIGHT!

OF COURSE!... WHAT A WONDERFUL IDEA!



WELL - THE BORLICK FAMILY'S GETTIN' ALONG SWELL NOW. TIM'S TURNED MRS. BORLICK'S CLUB INTO A BRANCH OF THE INNER CIRCLE CLUB AND HE'S GOT ALL THE GANGS PLAYIN' TOGETHER AS A TEAM.... IT JUST SHOWS WHAT A LITTLE UNDERSTANDING CAN DO!



### CHICK CARTER'S INNER CIRCLE

#### THE DEADLY VENUS . . . .

"I think," Nick said, "that without successful fear of contradiction I can say that this piece of junk was the most worthless looking thing I have ever seen. Right, 'Chick?'" He asked his foster son for confirmation.

"You're so right, dad." Chick pretended to shudder. "It was the first thing we saw when we went into the auction. You couldn't miss it. It stuck out like the proverbial sore thumb. All around it were really valuable art objects, paintings, statues, rugs . . . but it was the center of attention!"

"A chrome plated Venus de Milo! The trashy shining surface gave off a thousand reflections . . . and then, to make it worse it had a clock in the center of its stomach. It was enough to give any artist the heebie jeebies!"

"That it was." Nick said, picking up the thread of the story. "Chick and I had wandered into the auction rooms to get out of a rain. We just sat and looked at the horrible looking Venus. Not too surprisingly, when the auctioneer began to ask for bids on it, the people at the auction laughed. A man offered a half a dollar jestingly.

"The auctioneer pretended to be angry and asked for a minimum bid of ten dollars. He went on about what an ornament the Venus would be for any home. However, the audience refused to be impressed and continued to offer a dollar, or at best a dollar and a half.

"Just when the auctioneer was ready to refuse bids on the Venus unless they started at ten dollars, a man rushed into the auction rooms. He saw that the Venus was under the hammer and called out, 'Fifty dollars!' Another man who up till that point had been the highest bidder with a call of two dollars,

turned, and seeing the new bidder turned white.

"He ran his finger under his collar and called out, 'One hundred dollars!' The auctioneer was delighted by this new turn of events and began to really get to work; he worked the two men one against the other.

"The bids got really crazy. At a thousand dollars the first bidder had to give up. The second bidder, still wet with rain, smiled as he went up to pay for his purchase. He looked at the chromium Venus with gratification. The rest of the people were stunned at this peculiar turn of events.

"The first bidder, face blanched, left the auction gallery muttering under his breath."

"That," Chick interrupted, "was all that there seemed to be to the story. Nick and I talked about it for a while and then forgot all about it. It seemed to be one of those strange things that you run into from time to time that have no explanation; no beginning and no end."

"But the end came soon, and bloodily!" Nick said. "The man who had bid highest on the statue was found murdered . . . and the only thing missing from his home was the chromium statue!

"If we had not accidentally been witnesses to that bidding in the auction gallery the police might never have been able to find out the motive behind this strange crime. I recognized the dead man the instant I saw him. He had been stabbed to death.

"I told the police about what I knew and it didn't take much checking to find out who the other bidder had been. He was a man named Chella. He was an art collector. He



had one of the finest collection of ancient Roman art of anyone in the world. This made the whole case even more baffling. I could not imagine that anyone with any sense of art, with any eye for beauty at all would want the Venus even as a door stop!"

Chick said, "And yet it seemed sure that murder had been committed for the sake of that shiny horror!"

"We went to Chella's home," Nick said. "We, being, the police, Chick and I. The first thing we saw as we entered his beautifully furnished home was a real Venus. A thing of exquisite beauty . . . the lines were sure proof that the sculptor who had fashioned it had been a great, great artist. It was strange seeing the real thing when all the time our minds were filled by that modern abomination with the clock in its stomach."

"Chella was not very helpful. He pretended not to know what we were talking about."

"You know, Nick," Chick said thoughtfully, "I wonder if we ever would have caught him if you hadn't seen the significance of the storage batteries and the big tank . . ."

"It certainly would have been hard to prove, that's for sure!" Nick agreed.

Beef whispered to Sue Pennington, "Do you see what they're talking about? What have storage batteries and a tank got to do with a chromium Venus?"

"There's one thing . . ." Sue said thoughtfully. "It's a bad rule that doesn't work two ways . . ."

"Ah . . . now you're doing what Nick and Chick do." Beef made a face. "What does that mean?"

Sue put her finger to her lips. "Shh . . . Nick is explaining."

"I don't know whether you know anything about electro-plating," he said to the other members of the Inner Circle, "but if you know anything at all, you know that the process works two ways."

"Anything that you can electro-plate, you can remove the plating just by transposing

the wires. The same process that deposits a layer of metal on any object, will, when the current is reversed remove the layer of metal!"

"Which is, of course," Chick said, "exactly what Chella had done after killing to get the statue."

"He placed the chromium plated statue in an electrolytic bath and reversing the process had the electricity unplate the Venus!"

"He had no trouble in removing the clock from the statue's stomach. It had just been a flat dummy, glued in place." Chick amplified.

Beef couldn't stand it any more. He called out, "Whoa! What are you talking about? All right, I see that the real Venus was hidden under the chromium plate, that the dummy clock was glued in place so as to disguise the fact that the Venus was real. But why?"

"A very simple reason," Nick said. "When the Venus was dug out of the ground in the country in which it was found, it became one of the authentic art treasures of the country. They wanted it on display. Then . . . a thief stole it. . . . He was then holding an objet d'art that he couldn't even get out of the country in order to see it. He disguised it, sent it to *this* country, where it went right through the customs and was sent to the auction gallery."

"It was clever," Chick said. "The chromium and the clock were all that you could see. The fact that under that disguise was a very real treasure was completely hidden!"

"Chella gave up when I explained the significance of the batteries and the chemical tank to the police. He cried as he was taken away. Cried, not because he had committed murder, but because he knew that in prison he would never again be able to see the Venus for which he had killed . . ."

The members of the Inner Circle stirred and got to their feet. The meeting was ended till the next month. They knew that at the next meeting Nick, or his foster son, Chick, would again have some strange story of crime and criminals to regale them with, till then the odd story of the deadly Venus would give them something to think about . . .

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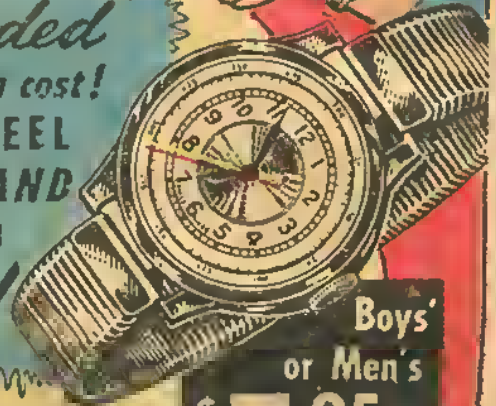
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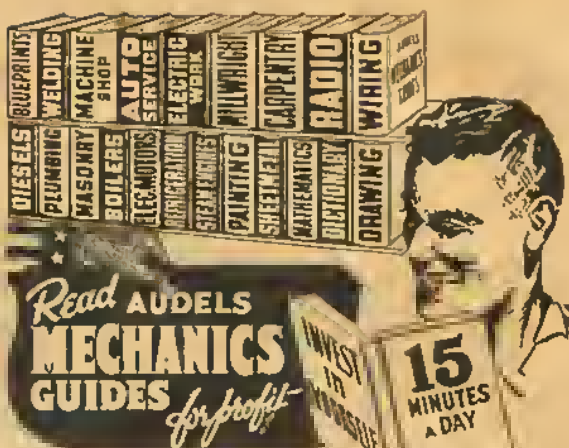
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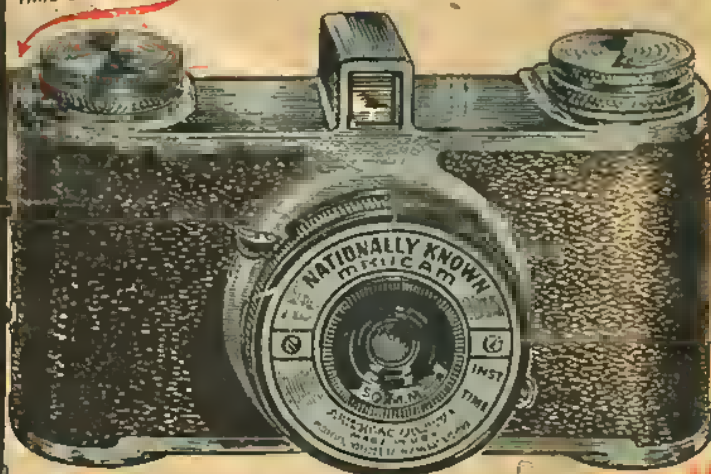
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NAME \_\_\_\_\_